

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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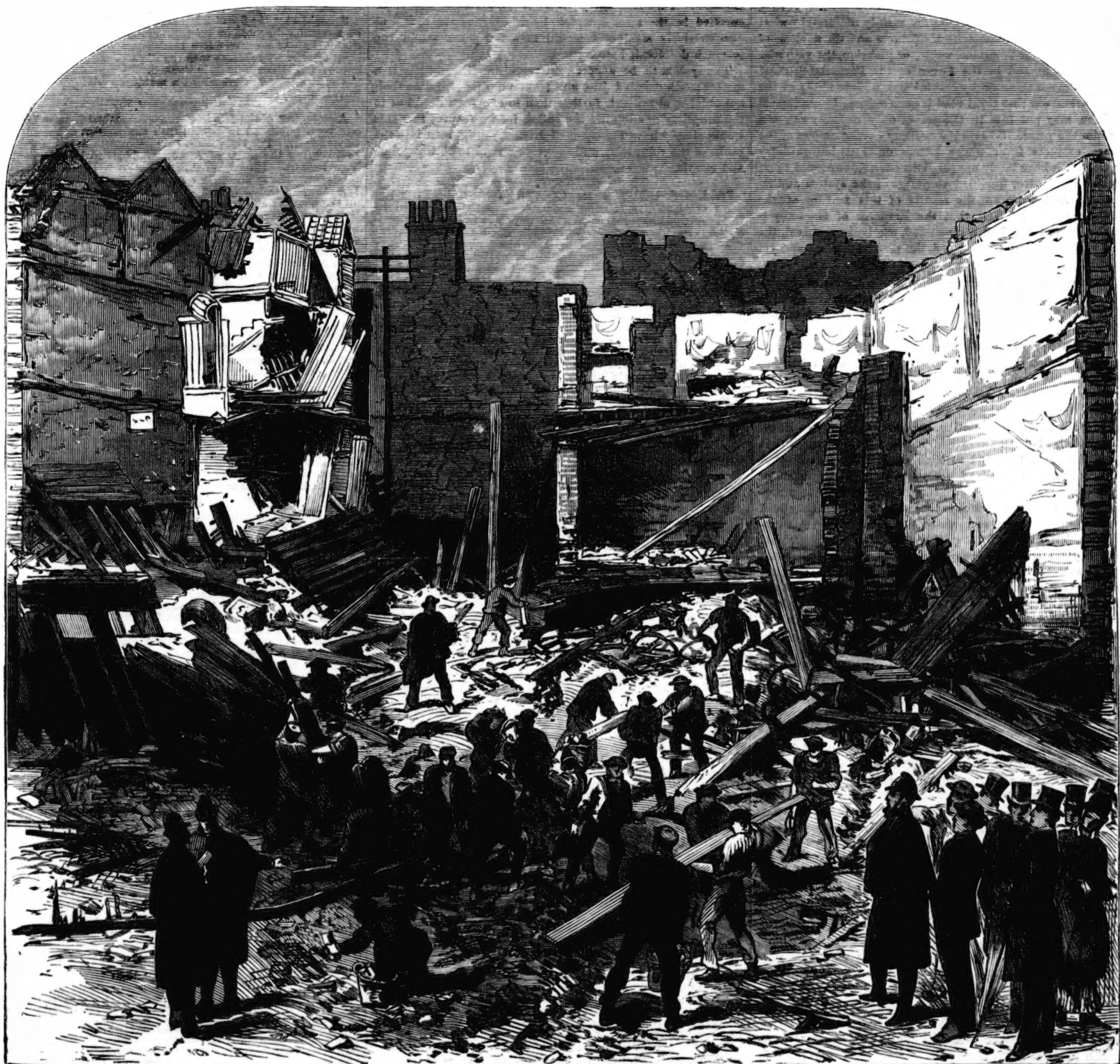
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## ARMY REFORM.

THE maximum of cost and the minimum of efficiency—that is to say, in commercial language, a very large outlay and exceedingly small returns—is, and has long been, the normal condition of the British Army; and, so far as we can see, those who cry out most loudly about the defectiveness of our armaments and the danger of invasion, have nothing to propose by way of remedy but what will be simply an augmentation of the evils under which we already suffer. "More money and more men," is the burden of their song; whereas what the country really needs, and desires—reverting again to the language of commerce—is better value for the money expended. The panacea of alarmists and professional soldiers has been tried more than once; money has

been profusely voted—is profusely voted now; but the desired equivalent—efficient defences—has not been secured. The British Army is enormously expensive: by a very long way the most expensive institution of the kind in the world; and yet we are told on every hand that it is notoriously the least effective military machine in existence. In 1868-9 the Army Estimates reached the handsome figure of nearly fifteen millions and a half; that was under Conservative auspices, for that year's expenditure was based on the calculations of Mr. Disraeli's Government. In 1869-70, the more economic Liberals having come into power, and having set about effecting reductions, the Estimates for the Army dropped to fourteen millions one hundred thousand pounds. In 1870-1 the figures were still further lowered, the votes for

the Army being a little under thirteen millions. But even the lowest amount is a handsome provision for one branch of our defensive forces, and that the branch, perhaps, which would have least to do with really defending the country, should it be attacked. Now, what disposable force does this enormous sum of money secure for us? how many men would it enable us to place in the field? Why, according to the calculations of both Sir John Burgoyne and Mr. G. O. Trevelyan, who deal with the question from very different points of view, only from 40,000 to 50,000—and these not by any means organised, disciplined, equipped, or commanded as they should be. Of course, we have more men than that; but, after providing for garrison and other duties, this is the extent of our forces available for field operations;



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should an enemy succeed in landing on these shores, we could bring no greater force of drilled troops to meet him. Is this as it should be? And if not, why not? These are the questions, we take it, that the country will desire to have answered; and to answer these questions, or to remove the scandal the necessity for asking them involves—this is the task to which our army administrators and army reformers ought to address themselves, and to which, if we do not greatly mistake, they will have to address themselves. In other words, those to whom is committed the management of our military affairs will have to reverse the past and the present system, and give us a maximum of efficiency at a minimum of cost.

It is much the fashion just now to dilate upon the Prussian military system and the admirable results it has achieved; and we are constantly told that as Prussia—we may now say Germany—is a nation of soldiers, we too must become a nation of soldiers, in order to compete with Germany, of course. Well, all that need be said on that point is that we doubt very much whether the German system, so far as universal military training is concerned, be practicable in Great Britain—our social and political condition, as well as our individual habits and predilections, being so widely different; and we doubt still more whether it be desirable, even if it were practical, to assimilate our system in this respect to that of Germany. We have no extensive land frontier to defend; and, what is still more important, we have no frontier to extend. Consequently, it is unnecessary that all our male citizens should be trained to arms, or that they should be at all times ready to relinquish their ordinary vocations and shoulder a rifle. But if we need not borrow the "nation of soldiers" idea from Germany, there are a good many points on which we might with advantage take a leaf out of the German book. And the first rule we ought to borrow is this, that those amongst us who devote themselves to the profession of arms should make themselves masters of their business, and that, too, in all its branches. Superior knowledge, superior skill, superior intelligence, are the sole passports to command, the sole avenues to promotion, in the Prussian army. So should they be in ours. The German armies are mainly officered by what may be called the gentlemen—the princes and the nobles—of Germany; but, be he prince, noble, or plebeian, the man who aspires to command in the forces of the Fatherland, must qualify himself therefore by careful and minute study of the whole art of war; no royal road is open to him; though social position may put him in the track, only capacity can win for him the prize. So says the military correspondent of the *Times*, extracts from whose letters on Prussian military organisation have lately appeared in our columns, and there are few men better qualified to judge of the system and its results. And what are the results of this feature of the Prussian system? Why, that the Emperor of Germany is at the head of the best commanded, the best organised, the best supplied, the best equipped, the most victorious, and yet relatively the least expensive army of the day.

Were competency for command the only means of obtaining military rank in the British Army, is it not reasonable to expect that we should secure just such advantages as the Germans enjoy—the maximum of efficiency at a minimum of cost? Our raw material is as good as theirs; that much may be affirmed without bragging. Englishmen, Irishmen, and Scotchmen, whatever their position in life, are naturally as brave and as apt to learn as Prussians, Bavarians, or Saxons; but, then, they are not so well taught in matters military, and they have not the same inducements to learn. One portion of our officers can attain a grade of rank that opens for them the road to high command without other qualification than length of purse; while another portion of them have small chance of winning the prizes of their profession, let their qualifications be never so high, if they lack cash to buy their way upwards to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. The buyers of "steps" have no need for professional skill beyond a knowledge of regimental routine; they can get on without it, and therefore care not to study. To non-purchasers superior knowledge is of little avail—it will not enable them to compete with cash, and therefore they have poor encouragement to acquire it. Hence it is that British officers, as a rule, are not distinguished for high professional skill; and hence it is, also, that the British army is ill-organised, is not efficient, and yet is exceedingly costly. And so long as the purchase system is maintained, so long will this state of inefficiency, consequent on imperfect professional education in the officers, continue to be a reproach to our army system; and so long, likewise, will that system be costly, because wasteful. The abolition of purchase, and the substitution for it of a more wholesome scheme of promotion, lie at the very foundation of this great question of army reform, and to effect this change must be the first aim of army reformers. We want strategists, tacticians, and organisers, not mere drill-sergeants, in our officers; and to secure these qualities we must encourage them to study strategy, tactics, and organisation.

Into the technical details of army organisation it is not our province to enter. These are matters for military men and experienced army organisers to deal with. To indicate, on behalf of the public, what is wanted, is the business of a journalist; to work out the public desires is the proper duty of professional soldiers. Still there are some things on which any man of ordinary intelligence is competent to pronounce an opinion. There is no difficulty, for instance, in understanding that to retain more officers—especially more Generals—in the service than are necessary, must be both wasteful and detrimental. The British Army is much more profusely officered than is either

that of Germany or France; particularly, it is over-generated; and over-generated, too, by men most of whom are past the age at which effective service can be looked for. No man should be borne on the lists of the Army who is not only willing but able to undertake and perform active work. We say not "only willing but able," for not a few men are ready enough to undertake duties which they are yet but little capable of performing. A scheme of retirement similar to that recently adopted in the Navy is therefore one of the reforms that ought to be made in the Army. Another thing is the localising of corps, and the abandonment of the system of moving them about from place to place. If a regiment have local associations, it will draw recruits to its ranks much more readily than if it have none. Each regiment would thus become, as it were, the property and the care of a particular district, the residents in which would take an interest in its character, its fame, and its well-being; and the expense and inconvenience of continual removals would be avoided. Indeed, there is scarcely anything so senseless as the existing practice of everlasting shifting of corps. The cost to the imperial exchequer is very considerable; the unnecessary hardship imposed upon the troops (from bungling management usually) is great; and the annoyance and trouble the billeting system entails on certain classes of citizens are a source of much dissatisfaction. Then a closer connection ought to be established between the active Army and the Reserves than now obtains—that is to say, the militia ought to be much more closely associated with the regular forces than at present. It should be disciplined with them; taught to act, by practice, along with them; and thus become as really effective for field operations in actual war as the regular Army itself. An interchange of officers between regulars and militia, and vice versa, ought to be established, so as to secure experience and efficiency in both. Furthermore, the creation of large reserves, so as to obviate the necessity for a strong standing army, ought to be aimed at; and to accomplish this a fuller development of the short-service system should be effected, with a proviso in the original engagement that discharged soldiers fit for duty should be enrolled in the reserve, which, by this means alone, and at comparatively small cost, would in a few years attain the so-much desiderated strength.

The system to be adopted in recruiting the militia is a matter much debated just now; but on that point we shall not enlarge at present, further than to express a doubt as to the propriety of adopting the ballot, for we suspect that this would simply have the effect of driving young men into the ranks of the volunteers, and so create a rival to both regulars and militia.

#### FALL OF HOUSES IN LOWER THAMES-STREET.

AN accident of a singular character—happily unattended by fatal consequences—happened a few days ago in Lower Thames-street. At the corner of Garlick-hill stood three houses, the erection of which must be dated somewhere about 1667. They comprised the Brown Bear tavern, uninhabited; a tenement recently occupied by a cheesemonger named Bushel; and the Bridge Coffee-house, rented by Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins; and those, with other dwellings in Garlick-hill, were shortly to be removed, for the purpose of making room for the erection of a warehouse. The upper apartments of the coffee-house were let to a couple of families—the first floor being occupied by a man named Binder, having a wife and five children; and the second by a mechanic named Smith, and his wife and two daughters. At eight o'clock in the evening Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins, the Binder family, and one or two of the upper lodgers, were at home, when the floors of each room began to vibrate, and noises followed like the tearing of paper and the cracking of brickwork.

The Brown Bear premises were in course of demolition, and a watchman who had been left in charge, apprehending danger, warned the inmates of the coffee-house, and advised them to leave the place as speedily as possible. Scarcely had he given the warning, however, when the two houses contiguous to the tavern crumbled to pieces. All the beams gave way, and the rooms and their contents dropped, as it were, en masse. Happily, the warning of the watchman was heeded. Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins were just in the act of quitting, and Mr. and Mrs. Binder, with their children, had reached the passage, followed by the lodgers of the third floor, when the premises fell; and, although they were prevented from gaining the street by the heaps of bricks and timber which fell around them, fortunately their lives were preserved. Mrs. Binder, with a baby in her arms, and a boy named Lockyer who was passing at the moment, were literally buried in the debris, a great portion of which fell on the pavement in front.

The crash, of course, alarmed the whole neighbourhood; but some minutes elapsed before the extent of the disaster, owing to the clouds of dust, could be ascertained. However, a search was speedily commenced for the persons who were supposed to be imbedded in the ruins. Within a few minutes the whole of the inmates were rescued from amongst the brickwork and timber. They were sadly bruised and covered with dust, but providentially none of them were seriously injured. The man Smith, who resided in the upper part of the house, had his attention directed to the noise, and he took a candle to the top of the stairs to ascertain the cause, when the walls began to open; and, before he could get into the street, bricks, mortar, and beams fell in the greatest confusion around him. Several persons passing along the street had narrow escapes. A trap belonging to a bill-poster was filled with rubbish, and the driver struck by a falling brick; but he sustained no serious injury. For upwards of a couple of hours the firemen and a number of labouring men were employed in turning over the ruins, with the view of ascertaining whether any person had really perished. It was reported that two children were missing, as well as one of the daughters of the mechanic Smith; but it was ultimately ascertained that the young woman had not arrived home from her work, and that the children were safe in the house of a neighbour hard by. The firemen searched the ruins by torchlight until information reached them that all the occupants were safe, and then preparations were made for "shoring" up the adjoining houses, which were left in a very insecure state, and for clearing the street, which had been rendered impassable by the heaps of timber that had in the search been thrown across it.

An eye-witness thus describes the scene:—"I was a few yards off at the time, and I saw the house 192 shake. I then heard a slight noise like an explosion, and then I saw the empty house fall out into the street right across the road. There was a dreadful crash, and a cloud of dust arose. Immediately after the whole of the coffee-house door fell out into the roadway, and there was another loud report. I heard groans coming from underneath a heap of bricks and pieces of timber that were upon the pavement. We instantly set to work and removed the broken bricks, and then, partly covered by a piece of timber, we found the body

of Mrs. Binder. She was dreadfully bruised, but her body had been partly protected by the timber which had fallen across it. Near her body, and lying on the pavement underneath a heap of bricks, we found the body of a little boy named William Edward Lockyer, aged five years and a half, the son of a mechanic living in College-street, Dowgate-hill. The man Smith, who was in the up-stairs room of the coffee-house, was thrown out into the roadway from his top room, but was very slightly injured."

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE.

A decree of the 18th opens a credit of 52,500,000*fr.* for the national defence and payment of contracts, whereof 22,500,000*fr.* are for payment of contracts executed, and 30,000,000*fr.* for fresh purchases of arms and ammunition.

Measures have been taken in the naval department to establish cruisers between the Strait of Gibraltar and the Channel, and nine vessels have been told off for this service, of which six are ironclads.

A telegram from Brussels in the *Daily News* makes the following statement:—"M. Thiers, on the occasion of his mission to Vienna and St. Petersburg, repeatedly alluded to the advisability of offering the crown of France to the King of Belgium. An attempt to follow up this idea has been recently made."

#### ITALY.

Prince Umberto and his consort have arrived in Rome to settle for the winter. They were enthusiastically received by the Roman population.

The Italian Consul has ceased all diplomatic intercourse with the Government of Tunis. The motives for this step are not exactly known.

In last Saturday's sitting the Parliament voted thanks to the engineers of the Mont Cenis Tunnel, and then proceeded to interpellations on the Franco-German war and the Oriental question. Four members belonging to different political factions, all expressing the warmest sympathy for France, asked for explanations of the Minister's conduct. Signor Visconti Venosta answered by stating the efforts that had already been made, together with the other neutral Powers, and declared that it was impossible for Italy to interfere alone. Impediments existed to prevent a joint intervention; but the Government had the firm intention of seizing the first opportunity to mediate in agreement with the other Powers. On the Eastern question the interpellations were withdrawn. After a short discussion, Signor Zaulies's interpellation respecting public security in Faenza elicited in reply from Signor Lanza a statement that troops will be sent into the Romagna while the exceptional laws are being voted. Great disappointment prevails among the public concerning the discussion on foreign policy.

#### SPAIN.

Senor Martos, the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, has drawn up a circular despatch on the future foreign policy of Spain. Its contents are of a conservative tendency, and express a desire to keep up friendly relations with the Papacy. The circular has been approved by the Ministers in Council.

The Republicans have issued a manifesto advising their party to vote at the elections.

#### GERMANY.

A statement of the fate in store for Alsace and German Lorraine has been published in Berlin, with the consent of the Imperial Government. The two districts are henceforth to be merged into one, bearing the name of Alsace, which is to be governed by a Vice-Regent. Prince William of Baden has been selected for this post. He is known for his affability; and in politics is a Liberal and a Cobdenite. The Vice-Regent will be invested with all the powers now exercised by the Governor-General, except the legislative powers and such special administrative authority as the Emperor may reserve for himself. The Vice-Regent will be assisted by a Council of Regency. The prefectures and sub-prefectures will be ultimately abolished; but they will continue their functions for the present. When the work of reorganisation is completed, a local Parliament of the whole province will be installed. It is expected that after the lapse of two years these merely provisional arrangements will be replaced by others of a definitive character.

Twenty-three thousand French prisoners are about to be removed from Coblenz and Cologne to Eastern Prussia and Schleswig. It is believed that the prisoners belonging to Alsace and German Lorraine will shortly be allowed to return to their homes, on engaging not to take part again in the war. Special privileges have already been conceded to them.

The Federal Treaties were sanctioned, last Saturday, by the Bavarian Lower House—102 votes being registered in their favour, the Opposition mustering only 48 votes.

#### AUSTRIA.

It is stated that for some considerable time past the receipts from all sources of taxation have been so large that, after paying the January coupons, the Austrian Minister of Finance has still a sum at his disposal amounting to 30 millions of florins.

#### RUSSIA.

An Imperial rescript has been addressed to the Governor-General of Finland, ordering measures to be adopted for the introduction of universal liability to military service in the grand duchy, on the basis of the existing laws of the land.

#### DENMARK.

In Monday's sitting of the Volksting the Budget of the Ministry of War came on for discussion. The leader of the Agricultural party recommended that reductions should be introduced, as perhaps all danger to the small States of Europe would soon disappear. The Minister of War replied that, on the contrary, he believed that the situation of affairs in Europe boded danger. No small State, despite its love for peace, could guarantee that it would not be drawn into the vortex of war, and have to defend its independence.

#### AMERICA.

Sir John Rose, on the part of the Canadian Government, had an interview, on the 17th inst., with Generals Schenck and Butler and Mr. Sumner relative to the fishery question.

#### INDIA.

Yakoob Khan, a rebellious son of the Ameer of Afghanistan, after surrendering, and while on his way to Cabul, tried to stipulate for the governorship of a province. The Ameer's servants, including Aslum Khan, pleaded their inability to give any promise; and on this ground, or suspecting treachery, Yakoob attacked them, and, after a crushing defeat, escaped with a few followers. Whether he has gone is not known.

#### AUSTRALASIA.

We have news from Australia to the end of the past year. The Victoria Parliament has been prorogued and dissolved; at Sydney a Martin-Roberts Coalition Ministry has been formed; and the Parliament at Adelaide was about to close. In New Zealand an uneasy state existed among the natives; and Tekooti was still at large. Mr. Todd, a surveyor, had been murdered.

THE IRISH NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT BAZAAR.—A grand bazaar is to be held in the Exhibition Palace, Dublin, on Thursday and Friday next, Feb. 2 and 3, on behalf of the twenty-eight life-boats which are stationed on various parts of the Irish coast, and which are under the management of the National Life-Boat Institution. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales have taken the bazaar under their special patronage, and the nobility of Ireland have, with hardly an exception, promised to give the humane undertaking their cordial support. The Marchioness of Drogheda, the Countess of Howth, the Countess of Granard, Lady Gray, Mrs. George, Mrs. T. Vance, and some twenty other ladies have most kindly promised to take charge of stalls at the bazaar.



## THE WAR.

## RUMOURED NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE SURRENDER OF PARIS.

SOME letters from Paris, written on the day after the disastrous sortie of the 19th, stated that the word "Capitulation" was beginning to be pronounced, and that instead of evoking immediate and indignant repudiations, it only elicited the rejoinder, "I always told you so." It is now further announced—not from Paris, however, but from Versailles—that M. Jules Favre has positively proposed to M. Bismarck that Paris shall surrender. He demands, it is said, that the garrison shall be allowed to march out with the honours of war, and go wherever it pleases. There are difficulties in the way of accepting such a statement as this in its first and most natural sense; at the same time we do not forget that it is one that could not have been made except under a deep sense of responsibility, and in perfect good faith. We have no reason to suppose that the people of Paris have had the question of capitulation before them for consideration, and it is needless to say that the fate of Paris could not be disposed of by a Government holding its mandate from Paris, and from Paris alone, without tolerable certainty that it was in accordance with the wishes of the people. Moreover, it is not alleged that M. Jules Favre has proposed to surrender the army of Paris, but only that he has shown a readiness to leave the occupancy of the city to the enemy on condition that that army should have free egress. This limitation very much detracts from the serious and practical character of the whole reported negotiation. To proffer terms which on the face of them are impossible of acceptance is not strictly equivalent to proposing nothing at all, for it may be a necessary first step towards something more real; but in itself such a proposal has no value. We imagine that M. Jules Favre, intercepted by M. Bismarck—whose desire to detain him near Paris for the purposes of negotiation was not concealed in his letter to the French Minister—may have mentioned in an informal way, as conditions which ought to be granted, some wholly and obviously inadmissible terms of capitulation, just as Bazaine did at Metz, but without committing the Government to a direct proposal to surrender. Something of this kind we believe has taken place; M. Favre has been feeling the disposition of the Germans, with a view to future, and probably early, use. But it is doubtful whether we have yet arrived at the point where the negotiations which are to lead to the surrender of Paris can be said to have actually commenced. A Versailles telegram states that M. Favre has returned from Versailles to Paris, instead of proceeding to England, a fact which indicates that negotiations of some kind are going forward, as to which M. Jules Favre finds it necessary to consult his colleagues; but they are more likely to relate to a general peace than to a mere surrender of the capital. Another telegram from Versailles says that MM. Picard and Dorian have received safe conducts, on the request of M. Favre, and will go to confer with him at Versailles.

## THE LAST SORTIE FROM PARIS.

Another sortie was made from Paris on the 19th inst., but ended in the completest failure. It was executed, as we learn on official authority, with enormous forces, at least 100,000 men—Line, Mobiles, and National Guards—taking part in it, supported by 300 guns. The aim of General Trochu—who commanded in person, committing the Governorship of Paris temporarily to General Le Flô—was to occupy the line of heights extending from Garches to Buzenval and Jochere. Paris had been led to expect that this great outbreak would certainly be successful, and the people gave up the day to waiting and watching for the issue. Every eminence that gave a chance of a view of the country towards St. Cloud was occupied with spectators, and the avenues leading from the Arch of Triumph to Boulogne, Courbevoie, and the northern suburb, were thronged with quiet but excited groups, in which women and children predominated, expecting the return of the orderlies who might bring word how the fight went, or of the ambulances that might bring back their victims. On the evening of Thursday General Trochu left the Louvre for the citadel of Mont Valérien. The operations were intrusted to three different corps-d'armée, under the commands respectively of Generals Vinoy, Bellemarre, and Ducrot, all of whom spent the night at Mont Valérien. To Vinoy was confided the conduct of the attack on the left, which was to be directed on Montretout; to Bellemarre that on the centre, starting from Courbevoie to the right rear from Mont Valérien, as seen from Paris; and to Ducrot that on the right, towards Rueil. The line of front did not extend four English miles across. The morning of the 19th was darkened by a thick fog. The advance had been arranged to commence at six, but owing to unavoidable delays from this cause, and the unexpected opposition to the march of the column of the right, it was retarded for several hours longer. The troops carried four days' provisions. An eye-witness states that the men looked haggard when they went out, but their officers were fine-spirited men. The French pushed on until they came to positions where they were shot down in heaps by the Prussians, safe behind their trenches. A Parisian law student belonging to the 116th National Guards declares that the Prussians did not show their heads over the line of a work against which his corps was sent but to fire or make grimaces at the French. "The only one I saw was a fellow that put his fingers to his nose for me." Ducrot appears to have been unable to take up his position at the appointed time. His troops were afoot at three in the morning; but the road by which they had to pass—that by Nanterre and Rueil, was swept by a Prussian battery at the Quarries of St. Denis as with a besom. They could not face the fire; and although their passage was ultimately finally secured by a cuirassed locomotive sent on by the St. Germain line, the delay had marred the operation. The German reserves and artillery had time to come up, and their guns overpowered those of the French. The first report, issued by General Trochu at ten a.m., dwelt on the difficulties of the enterprise. It said that the work of concentration had been very difficult and laborious during a dark night, and that a delay of two hours of the right column had taken place. A long and vigorous combat had raged round the redoubt of Montretout. The Bellemarre column had penetrated into the park of Buzenval, and occupied the château and heights of Buzenval. At six General Trochu reported that the battle had lasted since morning, extending from Montretout to the left, to the ravine of Celle St. Cloud to the right. General Vinoy to the left held Montretout, and was fighting. At Garches, Generals Bellemarre and Ducrot had attacked the platform of La Bergerie, and had been fighting for some hours at the Château du Buxenval; but at half-past six the sortie had failed. Next day the French retired within Paris.

It is stated in a telegram from Versailles that the German losses were 39 officers and 616 men; and that the estimated loss of the French is 6000, of which 1000 dead were left on the field.

## REPORTED RESIGNATION OF GENERAL TROCHU.

The Paris correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge*, in a letter dated the 22nd inst., states that, on the previous afternoon, the Government of National Defence accepted, by a feeble majority, the resignation of General Trochu as Commander of the Army of Paris. Admiral La Roncière de Noury is very likely to be General Trochu's successor. He has promised to raise the siege of Paris with 150,000 men, commanded by Generals of his own choice. M. Dorian has declined the appointment as Minister of War to succeed General Le Flô. It is stated, however, that Trochu is to remain Governor of Paris, so that, if a capitulation took place, he would have to conclude it.

## DEFEAT OF FAIDHERBE AT ST. QUENTIN.

A blow which the silent anxieties of those most interested had for days foreboded has at length fallen on the north, in the decisive defeat at St. Quentin of General Faidherbe's army. That unfortunate town, now for the third time in the hands of the enemy, which was reported to have received deliverance at Colonel Isnard's hands with so much joy only last Monday, may well say its last state is worse than its first. Whether General Faidherbe thought the possession of this point would enable him to get

southwards once more, regardless of the fall of Péronne and the practical establishment of Von Goeben's military line across his country, it is not easy to see; but at all events it is probable that in the first place he was not anxious to force on a decisive battle immediately, and secondly, that he was thoroughly deceived as to the real strength of the reinforcements General von Goeben had received. His defeat may not have been a rout; but, for all practical purposes, the result is the same.

The fighting commenced by some skirmishes on Wednesday, the 18th inst. On the previous day General Faidherbe had established his quartier-général at St. Quentin, and early the following morning dispatched a brigade of the 22nd Corps d'Armée in advance of the main army, which shortly after followed, in a southerly direction towards Mézières on the Oise. General Faidherbe being practically utterly deficient in cavalry, his reconnaissances were too limited to enable him to know for certain the direction occupied by the enemy; consequently, a portion of his men came unexpectedly upon their advanced posts near the village of Rouppe; and at Vaux the 43rd Regiment of the Line and the twentieth battalion of Chasseurs were suddenly and violently attacked by a Prussian battery. They lost five officers and over a hundred men. Orders were given to a portion of the 23rd Corps d'Armée, which, it must be remembered, is mainly composed of Mobilisés as opposed to the 22nd Corps d'Armée made up of Line soldiers and Marines, but they arrived too late to be of service. On the 19th the main battle commenced at nine o'clock in the morning by an attack from the Prussians, who occupied some heights overlooking the villages of Grugis and Castres, occupied by the second division of the 23rd Corps d'Armée, and commanded by General Gislén. By ten o'clock the French were obliged to abandon their position, and a powerful attack was made on their whole lines by the Prussians with an immense artillery force. The struggle continued till two o'clock, at which hour some French officers assert the Prussian lines were giving way before the 22nd Corps d'Armée, though at the same time the 23rd Corps d'Armée had then lost much ground. The two corps had unhappily become separated by the Canal Crozat, too broad and deep to be crossed but by bridges, and were consequently unable to be of use to each other. It was therefore soon seen that the 23rd Corps d'Armée began to yield visibly, and by three o'clock had retreated, certainly not in good order—in fact, "ran away" would be the more correct definition for those who had not become prisoners. General Faidherbe endeavoured, but ineffectually, to restore confidence by directing some battalions of the 22nd Corps d'Armée to go to their aid; but before this movement could be accomplished the panic was too great. From this time the 22nd Corps d'Armée, under Generals Deroja and Paulze d'Ivoy, sustained the whole of the fight. Even among these troops some Mobiles gave way, but were again rallied and placed in front of the Regiment of Zouaves of the North. These latter are as fine a body of young dare-devils as the French possess. However, by four o'clock General Paulze d'Ivoy, seeing the impossibility of defending further, the retreat was sounded, and, under the continual fire of the enemy, St. Quentin was again reached, but only en route for a further distance still; for, determined to repossess the town they had evacuated three days before, the Prussians not only fired upon the troops entering, but sent some shells into it. Thus, when night was falling, the weary men—almost dead with several days' marching to and fro, first upon Albert, next tacking westward upon Fins—were trudging several kilometres in the dreary darkness to Cambrai, knowing they had lost an important day, and that their conquerors were occupying the town they held the night before. Very few wounded have been able to be brought forward, the majority having fallen into the hands of the enemy. Of the numbers of killed and wounded on each side, it would be simply misleading to name any number whatever. They are entirely unknown. What is better known are those that are "missing" on the French side. These are so enormous compared to the numbers engaged, that it can only be assumed that either prisoners have been made en masse, or that immense numbers have simply run away as fast and as far as their legs will carry them. Incredible as it may appear, large numbers of these poor fellows have been obliged to march and fight with bare feet, their shoes, so bad in the first instance, having collapsed. I see now many limping through the street with nothing but a piece of the under sole strapped on God knows how, and their feet naked or only covered with a ragged sock. Can any people expect men of the calibre Frenchmen are to fight under such circumstances?

General Faidherbe has made his "official report" on the battle of St. Quentin. It contains no military details. The General says that he knew that if he moved he should encounter crushing forces, but that he had to perform "a duty of devotion." Reports from Brussels state that the bombardment of Cambrai, which began on Sunday, was conducted only with field artillery, and that, these being found too light, naval guns being employed in the defence, the batteries were withdrawn. St. Quentin is now occupied by the Germans. Versailles accounts state that the number of unwounded French prisoners taken by them amounts to 9000 men. The total losses of the French are reckoned at 15,000 men.

As far as can be ascertained, the Army of the North is being reorganised at Douai and Valenciennes. The environs of the latter town have been inundated, and the Germans are in front of Cambrai.

## GARIBALDIAN VICTORY AT DIJON.

On the 21st a large body of Prussian troops, with artillery, attempted to recapture Dijon; but, after twelve hours' fighting, were repulsed by the Garibaldians, who not only held their own positions, but captured some occupied at first by the enemy. The Garibaldians lost heavily, but the Prussians fared even worse. On the afternoon of Monday the Prussians attacked the town on the northern and western sides. After some severe fighting, the Prussians were driven back completely defeated. The brigade of Ricciotti Garibaldi destroyed the 1st Prussian Regiment and captured the colours.

## BOURBANKI'S MOVEMENTS.

There is little news of Bourbaki or his pursuers, although there is reason to believe that manoeuvres of the most important character are being made by Mantouffiel in the direction of his line of retreat. Bourbaki appears to be losing his supply-trains very rapidly. The Germans captured 200 waggons at Dôle, and now they have taken thirty-three more at St. Vitt. This of itself shows great weakness on the part of his army, and we suspect the disposition he has made of his forces, judging from the telegrams, to be unfavourable to concentration.

## CHANZY AND THE WEST.

From the west no incident of importance is communicated. The enemy appears to be falling back, the department of Mayence is free from Prussians, and Alençon has been evacuated. General Chanzy is endeavouring to reorganise his army in the neighbourhood of Laval, Rennes, &c.

The special correspondent of the *Daily News* says that for a long time it has been thought that France ought to make peace, and discontinue a hopeless struggle. Since the defeat of Chanzy's army this opinion, which it was unsafe before to express openly, is now fearlessly uttered. In the railway train on the way to Rennes an old soldier declared that M. Gambetta ought to have his neck twisted, as he was the cause of more useless bloodshed than anybody else; and these views were heartily supported by all the other soldiers in the carriage. At Rennes the Captain of a company of Mobilised National Guards gave an account of the terrible state of the camp at Conlie, and said that while the authorities represented that everything had been provided there, the whole place was in utter confusion and disorder.

A letter from Bordeaux says it is an unfortunate circumstance for General Trochu that his waning popularity coincides with the break down of his countrymen the Bretons in General Chanzy's army. The correspondent had seen a confidential telegram from General Chanzy complaining in bitter terms of their conduct.

Just as they were going into action, 15,000 of them "blubbered and roared for priests to confess them." Compliance with their request caused considerable delay, and even then they ran away.

## MISCELLANEOUS WAR NEWS.

Longwy has capitulated, after having withstood a bombardment of nine days. General Krenski entered the fortress on Wednesday, taking 4000 prisoners and 200 guns.

General Treskow, commanding the forces engaged in the siege of Belfort, says that during the night of the 20th and 21st he captured the village of Perouse, and the strongly-occupied and intrenched woods at Yailles and Bailly were taken, and five officers and eighty unwounded men taken prisoners. The German loss was great. Four new batteries opened fire on the 21st, chiefly against the castle.

Dole, in the Jura, was occupied by detachments of the German Army of the South on Saturday last. They captured 230 railway-waggons laden with provisions, forage, and clothing.

The Bordeaux Government publishes a number of reports of military affairs, from which it appears that the enemy is giving way in all directions. At Dijon the Prussian hares fly before the Garibaldian young lions. In the west also the Germans are retreating, or paying the penalty of their folly where they do not fall back in time. At Gisors the people, armed with pitchforks and scythes, have defeated a considerably superior Prussian force, and captured waggons and horses, besides killing twelve Uhlans. No news of the capture of provision-trains at Dôle or the presence of a German army in Bourbaki's rear appears to have reached Bordeaux; but it is mentioned that a corps of 20,000 Prussians is between Noyers and Semur. This is a part of the large force which is descending upon Bourbaki's rear, and has probably by this time passed through Dijon.

The Prussians have "requisitioned" 40,000f. at Yvetot, in order to punish the inhabitants for a manifestation of sympathy in favour of the Mayor of Bolbec, who had been carried off as a hostage by the enemy. Gacé (department Orne) has been requisitioned to the amount of 45,000f.; 10,000f. were paid.

M. Gambetta has paid a flying visit to the north, arriving at Boulogne from St. Malo in the yacht *Hirondelle*. He told the Sub-Prefect that General Chanzy was better, and, having reorganised his forces, was about to advance again. On leaving Boulogne M. Gambetta proceeded to Lille. His arrival was entirely unexpected, even by the officials, and, of course, took the inhabitants completely by surprise. M. Gambetta at once drove to the Préfecture, from the balcony of which he made a speech, in which he advocated resistance "to the bitter end," and maintained that, if France persevered in her efforts, the enemy must ultimately be overthrown. M. Gambetta, according to the Lille correspondent of the *Daily News*, in his various remarks, as well as in private conversation, seems imbued with the assurance that Prussia is well-nigh exhausted, and must before long break down under her superhuman efforts, and evidently sincerely believes it. He has apparently worked himself into the conviction that France must win, no matter what odds are against her. All her provincial armies conquered, and the Paris capitulation only an affair of time, makes no difference. He asserts yet that General Chanzy's army is in a most satisfactory position, and hints vaguely at movements that will soon surprise the world. Two curious omissions seem, however, to occur in both his orations. While he adheres to the determination not to yield an inch of territory, he says no word of fortresses; and "Heroic Paris," the theme of his New-Year's Day discourse, is not even mentioned. No practical act has been done towards any readjustment of the Army of the North beyond the displacement of General Robin, Commander of the Mobilisés, and the appointment of General Isnard in his place. General Faidherbe remains in high favour with the Minister of War, notwithstanding the defeat at St. Quentin. M. Gambetta has since left Lille for Calais and Laval.

The Emperor of Germany has published an order of the day announcing to the army his acceptance of the Imperial title. His Majesty says that the bravery and endurance of his soldiers have hastened the union of Germany; and he urges the men to maintain the feelings of mutual friendship, courage, and obedience which have secured them victory.

## M. FAVRE AND COUNT BISMARCK.

The following is the text of M. Favre's request for a safe conduct to enable him to attend the London Conference, and of Count Bismarck's reply:—

## M. FAVRE TO COUNT BISMARCK.

Paris, Jan. 13.  
Lord Granville has informed me in his despatch of Dec. 29, 1870, which I received on the evening of Jan. 10, that your Excellency, at the request of the English Cabinet, has placed at my disposal a safe conduct, which is necessary for the Plenipotentiary of France at the London Conference, in order that he may be able to pass the Prussian lines. As I am mentioned in that capacity, I have the honour to request you to forward the safe conduct in my name as soon as possible.—Accept, &c., JULES FAVRE.

## COUNT BISMARCK TO M. JULES FAVRE.

Versailles, Jan. 26.  
I beg your Excellency, in reply to your two letters of the 13th inst., to allow me to clear up a misunderstanding. Your Excellency assumes that on the proposal of the Government of Great Britain a safe conduct is ready for you in order that you should take part in the London Conference. This assumption is not correct. I could not enter upon an official negotiation, the basis of which is the presupposition that the Government of the National Defence is internationally in the position of being able to negotiate in the name of the French people until at least it has been recognised by the French nation itself. I imagine that the commanders of our advanced posts would have granted your Excellency permission to pass through the German lines had your Excellency requested such permission from the commander of the besieging army. It would not have been within the province of the latter to take into regard the political situation or the object of your journey, and the authorisation to pass our lines granted by the military leaders, which, from your standpoint, admits of no question, would have left the Ambassador of his Majesty the King in London free, in reference to the question whether, according to international law, the declarations of your Excellency are to be regarded as the declarations of France, to assume the proper attitude, and on his side find forms by which every prejudging of matters might be avoided. This plan your Excellency has, by your official request for a safe conduct, with the official declaration that the object of your journey was to represent France at the Conference, rendered impossible. The above-mentioned political considerations, in support of which I refer to the declaration which your Excellency, on the 12th inst., officially published, prevent my complying with your wish that such a document should be forwarded. In communicating this to you, I can only leave to you and your Government to consider whether any other way can be discovered in which the above-mentioned scruples can be allayed and every prejudice arising from your presence in London be avoided. But even if such a plan can be discovered, allow me to ask if it is advisable that your Excellency should leave Paris and your post as a member of the Government there in order personally to take part in a Conference about the Black Sea at a moment when interests are at stake in Paris which are more important for France and Germany than article 11 of the Treaty of 1856? Your Excellency would also leave behind in Paris the diplomatic agents and subjects of neutral States, who have remained—or, rather, have been detained—there long after they had received permission to pass through the German lines, and who are, therefore, so much the more under the protection and care of your Excellency and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Government de facto. I can, therefore, scarcely suppose that your Excellency, in the critical position of affairs, in the establishment of which you so materially assisted, will deprive yourself of the possibility of co-operating to effect a solution the responsibility of which rests upon you.—Receive, &c., V. BISMARCK.

M. Favre, it seems, subsequently applied to the German military authorities, who granted him the safe-conduct desired; but with the intimation, it is said, that no political inference was to be drawn from this proceeding.

THE REPUBLICAN COMMITTEES of Arras, Roubaix, Calais, Douai, Valenciennes, and Lille, have drawn up an address, asking the people of England for their sympathy with France.

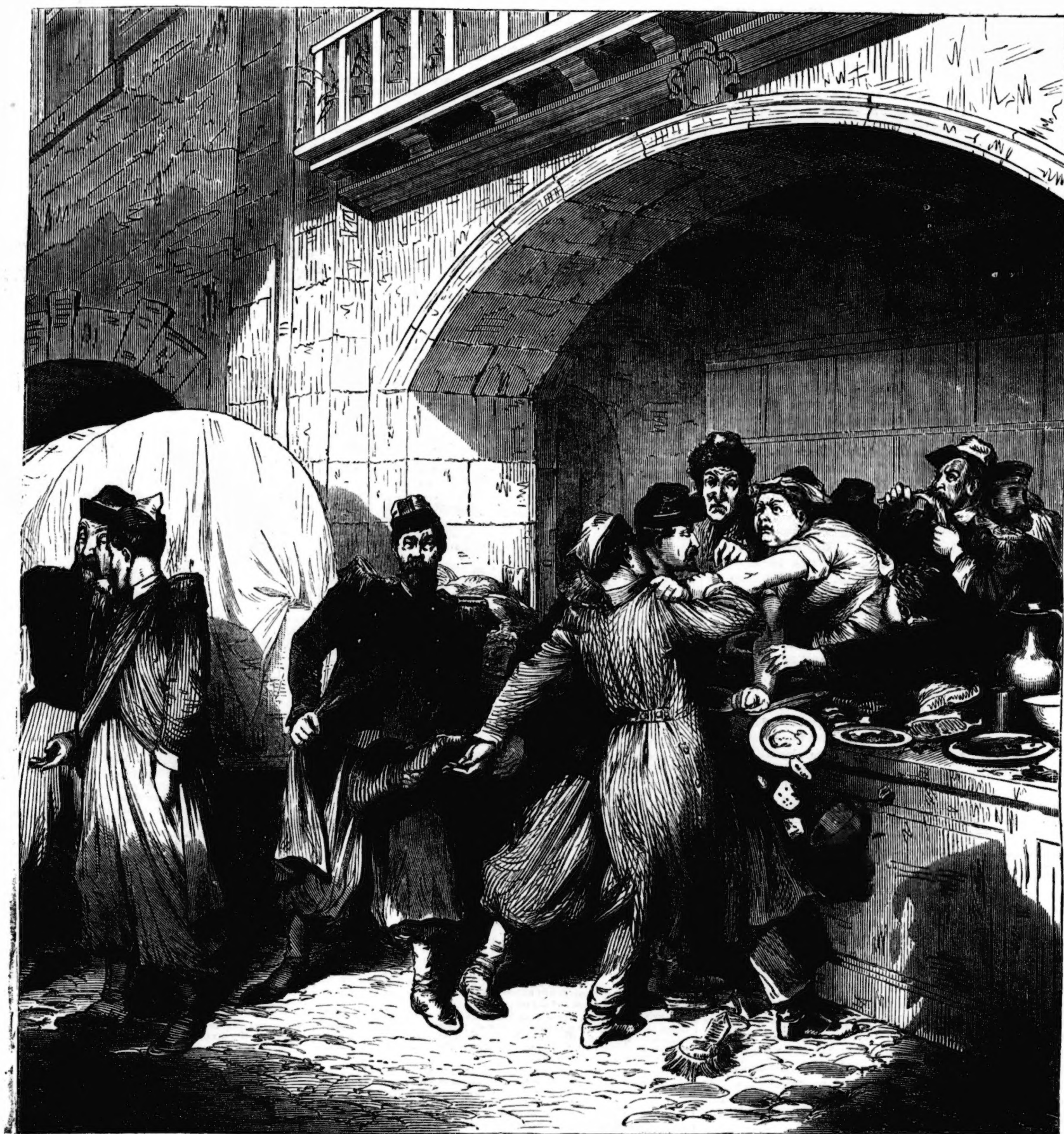
THE CONFERENCE again met, on Tuesday, at the Foreign Office. With the exception of France, the several States which were parties to the Treaty of 1856 were, as upon the previous occasion, represented by their respective Ministers at the Court of St. James's.





ENGAGEMENTS BEFORE PARIS: SAXON SHARPSHOOTERS RETELLING THE FRENCH NEAR VILLIERS.





SKETCH IN METZ: SCENE AT A MARKET-WOMAN'S STALL.—(SEE PAGE 61)

### THE TEN SIEGES OF PARIS.

Though the French have made Paris the largest and strongest fortress in the world, they profess to regard the idea of its being besieged as simply barbarous; yet there is no capital which has so often provoked and undergone attack. The first mention of Paris in history records an investment. Fifty years before Christ it was the stronghold of the Gauls. Labienus, the most able of Caesar's Generals, in that year marched an army against the rebellious place, and, after crossing the Seine, forced the insurgents to evacuate it. Before retreating, Vercingetorix, the chief of the Gauls, burned what there was of a city. But the site was too eligible not to invite the building of a new town. Like Berlin, Paris was originally confined to an island, formed by a river and surrounded by inaccessible swamps. No sooner had the Germans conquered France than Chlodwig, the leader of the invading tribe, reconstructed ancient Lutetia and made it the centre of the new empire. During the time his descendants held sway in France it remained their principal fortress. When their authority began to decline, the defence of Paris against a foreign enemy gave such prestige to one of their Generals as to enable him to usurp the throne of the decaying dynasty. Nearly 900 years after Christ Charles le Gros, a degenerate scion of Charlemagne, found himself attacked at Paris by the Normans. A helpless imbecile, he had no choice but to make his peace with the predatory bands, no matter at what cost. On the occasion of a second raid, however, Paris gallantly held out for a whole year, under the command of Count Otto, one of the King's nobles. So great was the renown Otto acquired by this feat of arms, that on Charles's death, in 888, the Frankish nobility elected him their King. A nephew of this Otto was Hugh Capet, the ancestor of the Bourbons.

In the mean time, the German conquerors of France, comparatively few in number, had become absorbed by the subject nationality, and every now and then had a brush with the old

country whence they had proceeded. In 978, when the German Emperor Otto II. was celebrating the Festival of St. John at Aix-la-Chapelle, he was surprised by King Lothaire of France at the head of an army of 30,000 men. The German Emperor returned the compliment, and having crossed the frontier on Oct. 1, marched straight upon Paris, overcoming all resistance in his way. Before winter set in, he stood at the foot of Montmartre, and invested the city. Very much like the Moltke of our day, he had to detail a portion of his army to ward off the hosts attempting the rescue of the beleaguered place; but, unlike what seems to be reserved for Paris in the present instance, he was obliged to withdraw without effecting his object. Winter and disease decimated his troops, he eventually returned the way by which he came. There is an old story that, before leaving, the Germans assembled on Montmartre and sang a Te Deum with so vast an energy of lungs that all Paris re-echoed the sound. Why they should have offered up their thanks in this boisterous manner when foiled in their efforts is a riddle unsolved to this day.

The strength of the place having thus been proved by experience, King Philip Augustus, at the beginning of the thirteenth century, extended its fortifications, adding several hundred towers to the walls. King Charles V., in the latter part of the fourteenth century, surrounded the new suburbs with a fresh enceinte, built a citadel called the Bastille, and constructed a fort on the isle of St. Louis. Notwithstanding these new defences, the English took Paris after the Battle of Agincourt, 1420. The Maid of Orleans, attempting to recapture Paris, 1429, was repulsed by the English, who, however, seven years later, were obliged to march out, owing to the gallantry of Dunois le Bâtard Royal.

King Henry IV. (Henry of Navarre) was the next to assail the devoted capital. As he was a Protestant, it would not recognise his authority. Having defeated the Catholic League at Ivry, March 17, 1590, he approached Paris in forced marches, and, occupying Corbeil, Lagny, and Creil, cut off provisions, then chiefly

received by the river. He next planted his guns on Montmartre, and from this dominant position left the Parisians—his naughty children, as he jokingly called them—to choose between bread and bombs. Not less obstinate than they are now, 15,000 of the inhabitants died of hunger before the town opened negotiations with the King. Just in the nick of time, however, the Spaniards, who assisted the Catholic League, sent General Farnese with a large army from Belgium to the rescue. Henry was compelled to raise the siege, and only entered Paris four years later, when he had embraced Catholicism, and then he was welcomed with the greatest enthusiasm.

France now rapidly increasing in power, Paris remained more than 200 years unvisited by an invading army. In the reign of Louis XIV. the mere idea of the foreigner venturing into the heart of France had come to appear so preposterous as to lead to the razing of the old fortifications. Louis XV., in 1726, again encircled the city with a wall, which, however, was not intended to serve a military purpose. As an open town, Paris underwent the storms of the Revolution. When, in 1814, the allied armies arrived in front of it to avenge the deeds of Napoleon I., a few redoubts, hastily thrown up, were all the impediments in their way. 25,000 regulars under Marmont and Mortier, and 15,000 National Guards, with 150 guns, held the place for a day against 40,000 Prussians and Russians. When Montmartre had been taken by storm, and the Cossacks and Uhlans were swarming in La Chapelle and La Villette, the proud capital surrendered. On March 31 Frederick William III. of Prussia, the father of William I. of the present day, and Alexander I. of Russia made their entry into the city.

The following year witnessed the repetition of the feat. On July 2, 1815, the Prussians, under Blücher, took Montrouge and Issy by storm, while Wellington forced his way into the northern and eastern suburbs. On July 7 the English and Prussian Guards once more trod the Boulevards.



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**TOPICS OF THE HOUR.**

It seems we must eat our peck of robbery somehow. If there is less garotting than there used to be, there is plenty of burglary. The usual winter alarms have set in. We have also a police circular, informing us that policemen will be stationed in such and such neighbourhoods, and that the continued springing of a rattle or ringing of a bell (*a fortiori*, we presume, the continued beating of a gong, or springing of several rattles, or ringing of several bells) will bring assistance. This is consoling. There is, however, another circular, good-naturedly informing us of several things we knew before. As, that thieves get in through the attics, or through the fan-lights, or through shutters negligently fastened; or that they knock at the street door, send the servant to the mistress on a wild-goose errand, and then steal the things in the passage. We have certainly a vague idea of having heard all this innumerable times over from childhood upwards. They belong to the primer of household precaution; and we should have thought the police authorities could have let us into a few of the "dodges" of the trade that were less obvious. At all events, we can assure our readers that small night burglaries are very frequent just now. But the only specific advice that occurs to us—have a baby directly. It compels you to keep a light burning, and it probably makes you wakeful. Thieves are known to be tender of attacking houses in which there are young infants, and they are quite right. But it strikes us that the police ought to be able to tell us a little more than we already know of such matters, and that, before long, the question of the thieves' quarters will demand to be looked into. The burglars' centres of organisation are far better known to the police than the centres of Franks-Tireurs have been known to the German forces in France, and something will at last have to be done to break up those centres.

The increase of smallpox is another topic of alarm just now, and the parochial and other authorities concerned are doing a variety of sensible things in the matter. In the course of the week we happen to have read some printed appeals by parish doctors, and there is only one fault to find with them—they contain too many long words. We cannot help suspecting that the chief reason of the late increase in smallpox cases is the badness or weakness of the vaccine matter that was generally in use from seven to twenty years back. It seems to us that the statistics, so far as we possess them, bear out this conclusion, because they tend to show that the increase has been greatest in those parts where the lymph would most likely be used again and again, and transmitted and borrowed so often and so promiscuously as to become attenuated in force or directly deteriorated in quality. In the meanwhile we strenuously recommend parents in all ranks of society to look sharply after the schools their children attend.

The theatrical people proper have again been very busy with the people who have, as the law now stands, no right to present "stage plays," though they may have music and dancing, or music alone. Of the injustice and impolicy of the law which gives "theatres" any advantage in this particular, there can be no doubt. All we wonder at is the poverty of invention shown in the various attempts to evade it. As the law now stands, if a company of friends at a literary institution were to give a performance of, say, an act out of "Hamlet" and a scene from "The Beggars' Opera," and take money at the doors in order to defray the expenses, they would be liable to a heavy fine. All such performances are, in fact, noticed by the Lord Chamberlain and the people engaged are threatened. Now, it is quite clear that the law has no business to interfere in such matters except in the way of ordinary police, and that the whole of the "privilege" of the "licensed houses" is a remnant of feudalism. A Parliamentary Committee, presided over by Mr. Goschen, some time ago reported against the existing restrictions; and it would be a very easy matter, even in a busy Session, to get them repealed.

**SMALLPOX IN LONDON.**—With respect to the progress of smallpox in London, the Registrar-General remarks that the fatal cases showed an increase of fifty-three upon those returned in the previous week. In the two smallpox hospitals at Islington and Hampstead 5 and 17 deaths were respectively registered last week. After distributing these 22 fatal cases among the districts from which the patients were admitted, it appears that, of the 188 deaths, 72 belonged to the east group of districts, 40 to the west, 39 to the north, 29 to the south, and 17 to the central. The number in each of these groups of districts showed a nearly equally large increase upon the previous week, except in the central districts, where the increase was comparatively small.

**SAYINGS AND DOINGS.**

HER MAJESTY will open Parliament in person, should her health permit. THE KING OF SAXONY has written an autograph letter to the German Emperor, congratulating him on the assumption of the Imperial title.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER has declined to allow himself to be nominated for a seat on the Exeter School Board. His sister, Miss Temple, has been put in nomination, and will go to the poll.

MR. CHILDERS is better, and will continue to retain office, taking, however, for a limited period, complete respite from work, in order to establish a thorough restoration to health.

THE DUCHESS DE FRIAS died at Madrid on Sunday. She was well known as Miss Victoria Balfe, second daughter of the late celebrated composer. She leaves three children.

COUNT BISMARCK has been made a Lieutenant-General.

MR. BRIGHT, it is said, has received an autograph letter from the Queen, expressing her Majesty's regret at receiving his resignation as a member of the Cabinet, condoling with him on the state of his health, and expressing her Majesty's hope that she may see the right hon. gentleman ere long as a guest at one of the Royal palaces.

SIR WILLIAM VERNER, who sat in the Conservative interest for the county of Armagh from 1832 to 1868, has just died, in his eighty-ninth year. He is succeeded in the baronetcy by his eldest son, M. W. Verner, M.P. for the county of Armagh, and brother to the member for Lisburn.

M. PINARD has been set at liberty, with orders to leave France. He has gone to Geneva.

THE VERY REV. MONSIGNOR VINCENT EYRE, of Hampstead, a well-known Roman Catholic clergyman, died on Sunday, after a few days' illness, from congestion of the lungs.

NEARLY 200 RECRUITS enlisted at Woolwich for service in the Royal Artillery last week, most of them being of the standard requisite for drivers.

THE COUNTESS OF DURHAM died at Lambton Castle last Saturday morning. Her Ladyship, who was the second daughter of the Duke of Abercorn, was confined, on Wednesday, of her thirteenth child and ninth son; but dangerous symptoms followed, and although the best medical advice in the district was obtained it was of no avail. The deceased Countess was born in 1835, and was, therefore, in her thirty-sixth year. She married the Earl of Durham in 1854.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER, at a ragged-school meeting on Monday, said secular education alone would be a blessing, although an inferior one to a religious education. He could see no way of reaching the immense masses of untutored children in Manchester but by compulsion; and he did not know of any mode of compulsion which would be effective except the system represented by the police.

MR. JOSEPH BURNLEY HUME, the eldest son of the late Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P., died on Saturday last. He was fifty-two years of age.

LORD NEWRY was, on Monday, returned without opposition for the borough from which he derives his title, in succession to the late Mr. Kirk.

A DEMONSTRATION OF SYMPATHY WITH THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, and of indignation at the bombardment of Paris by the German armies, was held in Trafalgar-square on Monday evening. It was presided over by Mr. Odger.

TWELVE HUNDRED GERMANS have been expelled from Marseilles, in consequence of a decree of the Prefect. Several of them are alleged to have been compromised as Prussian spies.

A MAN WHO HIRED A CAB for the conveyance of a smallpox patient without having notified the fact to the driver was, last Saturday, convicted of the offence at the Thames Police Court, and fined 40s.

TWO HUNDRED WATCHES were stolen from an Edinburgh jeweller during Sunday night, and other property to the value of £700. It is said the thieves put a boy into the house by an aperture only a foot square. The boy unbolted the back door and let his friends in. Burglaries at jewellers' shops are also reported from Chesterfield and other places.

MR. DAVIS, of the 19th Middlesex, who acted as secretary to the Volunteer Committee which proposed to give a public reception to M. Jules Favre, has been dismissed from his corps. He had been a member of the 19th Middlesex eleven years.

A COMMON LODGING-HOUSE KEEPER, who had neglected to give notice that a person was suffering from smallpox in his dwelling, was on Tuesday fined 20s. and the costs by the Clerkenwell police magistrate.

THE QUOTA OF EXPENSES DUE BY THE CITY OF LONDON in respect of the election of four members to the London school board is £737 6s. 6d. It was estimated at the meeting of the Commission of Sewers, on Tuesday, that the cost of the election throughout the metropolis was £5000.

A MEDICAL STUDENT, who, in a midnight "lark," had wrenched off two bell-knobs from a house in Lamb's Conduit-street, was ordered to pay a fine of £5, besides the damage, 10s., at Bow-street, on Tuesday.

THE REV. THOMAS BINNEY will preach his last sermon in the Weigh-House Chapel, London Bridge, on Sunday (to-morrow), on behalf of the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools.

SENOR CASTILLO, of Saragossa, some months since predicted a very severe winter, which Spain has since shared with other parts of Europe. The same astronomer now predicts frost and snow, with a continuance of Polar winds and very rough seas, towards the end of the present month.

DR. DONNELLY, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Clogher, has rebuked a schoolmaster in one of his parishes, named Cassidy, for having attended a meeting of the National Teachers' Association in Dublin, at which a resolution was carried in favour of joint lay and clerical control of schools by a committee instead of by a clerical manager. The Roman Catholic Episcopacy (Dr. Donnelly says) will rather abandon the public grant than their control over the teacher and the school.

A YOUNG WOMAN, whose arm had been amputated at St. Thomas's Hospital without her knowledge or consent, applied to the Lambeth police magistrate to know whether she could proceed against the operating surgeon for damages. Mr. Ellison told her that if there was any remedy at all it must be sought in a civil court.

SOME OF THE FRENCH PRISONERS AT SPANDAU have started an illustrated paper, entitled *Prométhée*, the programme of which is to "speak at a distance from beautiful France of small matters which concern us abroad, and to revive among us that old Gallic satire and gaiety which characterise our nation." The first number has been published, and contains articles by prisoners of a humorous character.

THE LORD MAYOR presided, on Monday, over a public meeting at the Mansion House in aid of the fund for ensuring the efficiency of the city of London volunteer corps. Resolutions recognising the duty of the metropolis to supply a worthy contingent to the defensive forces of the country, and characterising the present arrangements of the City volunteer corps as unsatisfactory, were adopted. Subscriptions to the amount of £1600 were announced.

MR. BLAGRIF, residing at Glasen, about three miles from Athlone, was driving from his own residence to Athlone fair, on Monday morning, when he was fired at from behind a ditch. The shot missed, and Mr. Blagrif drove on quickly. The intending assassin followed and fired again, the shot this time knocking off the hat of the servant who was on the near side of the carriage. A third shot was fired, but also missed. The outrage is attributed to an ejectment brought against a tenant at last quarter sessions, but not proceeded with.

THE SHIP MARIA, of Dundee, 749 tons, went ashore at Bacton during a strong easterly wind and in a heavy sea on the 23rd inst. The crew of nineteen men were happily saved by the Bacton life-boat recomense, belonging to the National Life-boat Institution.

A DEPUTATION FROM THE COLLEGE OF PRECEPTORS, on Wednesday, waited upon Mr. Forster, to lay before him a scheme for establishing training colleges for secondary teachers at the expense of the State. The Vice-President of the Council expressed his fear that neither the Government nor Parliament would very easily consent to such a proposition.

THE WEST INDIA AND PACIFIC ROYAL MAIL COMPANY'S STEAMER CRUSADER, Commander Winder, has been lost near Carthagens. The Crusader was an iron screw-steamer, of 1049 tons and 100-horse power, but the engines were capable of working up to a higher pressure. She was constructed at Greenock in 1862. This vessel left Liverpool on Dec. 16 last.

A TERRIBLE COLLISION has taken place in the tunnel at Montmédy, between a train carrying young recruits for the German Guards and one carrying French prisoners. The former train was not injured; but five carriages of the latter were completely destroyed. Many men were killed outright, and a large number wounded. The French hostages from Sedan escaped; but the accident was not caused by the French.

JOHN WHITE, a warder at the Chatham convict prison, has been sentenced to four months' hard labour by Mr. F. Guise, the Chatham police magistrate, for obtaining the sum of £2 from the relatives of a convict under his charge, under the pretence that he could obtain "extra comforts" for him. The accused wrote a letter, purporting to come from a convict named Redgrave, requesting that £5 might be sent to a pretended address for him. The wife of the convict, however, placed the letter in the hands of the authorities, the result being that the prisoner was cleverly trapped, after he had received £2, which he supposed had come from the convict's wife.

**THE LOUNGER.**

WHEN the head of her Majesty's Government picks out a Radical from below the gangway, and places him upon the Treasury Bench, "a horn is spoiled to make a spoon." The spoon may be a good, handsome, useful spoon; but it is no longer a loud-sounding horn. Let all Radical constituencies take note of this. They may like to see their member upon the Treasury Bench, and be delighted to hear his praises chanted, as "an able administrator," "a rising man," "a searching departmental reformer," and feel that his honours shed honour upon his constituents; but they must not expect that he will be the free outspoken courageous Radical reformer that he was when he sat below the gangway. The Prime Minister has

Slipped the collar round his neck  
And snapped the lock.

And though the chain attached to the collar may be more or less long, according to the position in which the new Minister is placed; reasonably long if he be at the head of a department, but very short if he be a mere subordinate, in all cases there is a chain and a collar. Yes, in all cases. The High Secretaries of State are not exempt, nor even the Prime Minister himself; for though no one in the Ministry can say to him you must not or you must do this or that, he, too, is tethered and conditioned, as the philosophers say, and beyond a certain radius cannot go. No doubt, Mr. Gladstone has in that feigned head of his many plans and theories which he would like to carry out; but he sees that at present they are impossibilities, and therefore puts them aside until time and the growth of public opinion shall make them possibilities. In short, he, too, powerful as he is, cannot realise his ideals. If, then, Radical constituencies wish to have their members entirely free and independent, they had better exact pledges from them never to accept office under the Crown, for no member of a Government can be perfectly free and independent. If, on the other hand, said Radical constituencies think that it is good for the interests of the country that their representatives should take office, then said representatives must be allowed to some extent to sacrifice their independence. No Government could exist under the condition that every member of it may do as he likes. Let the electors of Bradford and also the electors of Halifax ponder this. It is a very simple alternative. Were I a voter for Bradford, I should say that Education Act is not entirely satisfactory to me, probably not to Mr. Forster; but it is as good a measure as he could get passed, and, though not so good as I could wish it were, it is, with all its faults, a beneficial measure, and therefore I shall give him my support. Patience, brother Radicals, patience. In a country governed by a Constitution like ours, we Radicals can never get all we want at once; we cannot take the old Tory citadels by assault, but only by the slower operations of sapping and mining.

A word or two about Greenwich and the excitement there. I have learned from authority which cannot be doubted that the so-called excitement at Greenwich is a very shallow affair, not by any means a movement of the deep waters, but only a noisy bubbling on the surface, originating mainly with the Tories there, and blown up into something like turbulence at last by extraneous orators hired and paid for that same. Some of the most blatant spouters at such meetings are not electors of the place, nor even residents there, but professional spouters of the Dugald Dalgetty sort, selling their oratory as Dugald sold his sword, to whoever—Whig, Tory, Radical, or Democrat—will give them good pay and "provant" as Dugald called his provender, &c. These gentlemen are well known about town—a hundred smoking-rooms have echoed with their eloquence. I know the class well. Members of it, before strangers were excluded from the lobby of the House of Commons, used to prowl about there for prey; and it was a joke there that by their outward appearance it was easy to ascertain whether their wares were in demand or not. If your professional spouter looked seedy it was known that spouting was, as the "price current" says, "not sought after." If, on the other hand, he came down in good feather, the policeman on duty would say, "Look at so-and-so, his wares are up in the market." When these gentlemen are in a seedy state, indicating impecuniosity, they live by begging. No, I beg their pardon; they do not descend to actual barefaced mendicancy. Like some States we know, they negotiate loans, well knowing that said loans will never be paid off. And here I may say that Mr. Speaker's order to keep the lobby clear of strangers was issued mainly in consequence of complaints that these gentlemen, with other impecunious people, very much troubled the members. Quite lately one of these professional spouters—a gentleman quite notorious for "staggering" his friends for irredeemable loans of half-crowns, when he is impecunious, as he very often is—spouted at a meeting—I will not say where—and on the following morning appeared at one of his haunts with a ten-pound cheque to be changed, presumably the pay for his over-night's eloquence. Does any landlord in the neighbourhood of Fleet-street, or elsewhere, remember such an incident; and, if he can, does he remember the name on that cheque? One would not grudge a trifle to get that name; perhaps we might discover from it who it is that pays these gentlemen for their dirty work. By-the-way, who pays the expenses of those working-men's candidates who, knowing that they have not the slightest chance of being elected, put up for boroughs, and, by dividing the Liberal party, let the Tory in? It is known they do not pay their own expenses. It is presumable that those who get the advantage of the move pay the cost of it.

In the *Times* newspaper there occasionally appears in the vacation a column, headed "Members Out of Town," containing condensed reports of speeches made by said members. I always glance at this column, but seldom find much that is worth noting. Mere platitudes, for the most part, are to be found in these vacation speeches. Speeches made in the country by Ministers of the Crown are rarely worth reading. They tell us what has been done, which we knew before. They rarely tell us what is about to be done, which we want to know; and all controverted subjects they skim over as a skater skims over dangerous ice. But from Brighton, when its members meet their constituents, we always get something worth reading. Good, sound, manly common-sense, delivered in plain, forcible, English, is what we get from Brighton. Sometimes the language of Mr. White is epigrammatic. Here is an example: He tells us that "if anyone will take the trouble to compare the cost of our Army with that of any other nation, making liberal allowance for the difference between a compulsory service, the conclusion will be irresistible that the British Army is the most notable exemplification that the world has ever seen of the maximum of costliness with the minimum of efficiency." Very forcible this, and how true it is. Nor, according to Mr. White, is there much hope of reform. "Doubtless," he says, "some modifications and improvements may be proposed in the organisation of our war department. A few nights' debate, an increased vote, the customary effusion of Flunkies of past, present, or expectant placemen; and the old habits and bad usages of the Horse Guards under the auspices of his Royal Highness will, as before, reign paramount." And I fear that in this matter Mr. White will have with sorrow to see his prophecy fulfilled. The Army abuses are entrenched behind such a mass of self-interest that they are—it is to be feared that they are—quite safe from the attacks of any force that can be at present brought against them. I should like to quote much more from this speech, but my space is exhausted. It was rumoured that Mr. Fawcett would meet with some opposition. But, if any intention of that sort

The *Morning Advertiser* told the world, on Jan. 25, that England has no dominant statesman with a soul superior to that of Cocker or with the heart of a male Titmouse. Soul of a Cocker! Mr. Editor, what will your predecessor, that celebrated defender of the faith, think of this heresy when he sees it? The cor-



respondent of the *Daily Telegraph* lately talked, in a letter of his, of "a midnight with a bright moon overhead, violent cannonading in the distance." This was on Jan. 20; but, alas! as a correspondent shows us, there could be no bright moon overhead on the 20th. This is awkward. It reminds me of an accident which happened to a dramatic critic on the *Morning Star*. He criticised a performance at some length. It appeared in the paper next morning; and, no doubt, he read it with pleasure at breakfast. But, as he soon had to discover, there had been no performance at the theatre. The fog was so thick that the audience was dismissed.

#### THE LITERARY LOUNGER. THE MAGAZINES, ETC.

Before passing to a topic of very important and immediate public interest, let me dispose of one which is wholly literary. In the December *Cornhill* appeared some verses, entitled "After Ten Years," which I did not notice at the time because my head was, necessarily, too full of heterogeneous and confusing matters from the annuals, &c., to be able to exercise the faculty of the literary "taster" with anything like nicety. These verses are, as I had understood, by a young lady of about eighteen, and the question is what amount of promise they contain. Now, this is a question no one can answer. If a girl of eighteen did her own free best—i.e., cut her cable and pleased herself in what she wrote, the chances would be strongly against her writing what would be accepted for a magazine like the *Cornhill*, which demands reticence and sobriety. I can only say of this poem that I should be proud of the daughter who wrote it, and that her faculty is one to arrest attention. But, considering what I have already referred to, and also the fact that the subject of the poem is one that is beyond the experience of a girl of eighteen (being the meeting, after years of absence, of a betrothed couple peculiarly placed), it is impossible to say more than that the poem is striking. By accident (I presume), two lines (10, p. 713, and 7, p. 714) are each a syllable short. The young lady, if she should see these lines, must not think them cold. Ten years hence, especially if she has by that time fulfilled the highest hopes of her friends, she will not think them so.

Let me now return for a moment to the *Sunday Magazine*, for the sake of a most important topic. Most people are aware that an assembly of authorised Church dignitaries and divines is now engaged upon the revision of the English Bible; and here the Rev. D. K. Guthrie writes an article in favour of the work. It is nearly all very sensible, and one hopes it may do good. But there is a paragraph which is open to very serious question. The author objects to such old-fashioned words as "quick" for living, "let" for hinder, "which" for who, and so forth. But to alter these would be a piece of barbarism, such as no imaginative person would endure. Scholars and poets still use them; and their proper force and place are matters not for Lindley Murray, or Lennie, or Valpy, but for Dean Trench, Professor Max Müller, or Dr. Latham. The word "which" in the Lord's Prayer, for example, has a force that "who" does not give; and it is not without reason that Mr. Tennyson writes—

One God which ever lives and loves.

However, to pass on. Mr. Guthrie proceeds as follows:—

We do not enter on the consideration of whether, and how far, expressions and words, which in the early part of the seventeenth century had no special indelicacy attached to their use, should, in the translation of the Old Testament, now be modified. Care being taken to preserve the essential meaning of the writer, there are obvious reasons why such a change should be made. Nor should there, we imagine, be much difference of opinion as to the propriety of substituting intelligible English equivalents for the Orientalisms which in our Bibles are translated "reins," "bowels," and the like. Because the Hebrews attributed the seat of the mental faculties to the kidneys, and of the emotions to the viscera, are we obliged to adhere to the literal translation in such passages, when we depart from it so frequently elsewhere? [Pray note this frank admission of frequent departure from the original.] Why not, therefore, in the numerous texts where the above expressions occur, substitute "thoughts" and "hearts"?

It does not follow from the passages referred to that the Hebrews located the emotions in the abdomen, or the wits in the loins, and both "reins" and "bowels" are used as metaphors in various languages, just as the Hebrews used them. The reasons are obvious—at least, I should have supposed they were. But what I point to with alarmed earnestness is this, that, if Mr. Guthrie were wholly right in his criticism of the use of these words, his proposal to alter them into what he thinks their proper psychological equivalents is one of the coolest things in all literature. If the Hebrews really thought so-and-so, it is highly important that we should know it. Every fact of the kind is vital, not circumstantial. There is a dreadful penal law in the Pentateuch, accompanied by a physiological test, which is well known to be fallacious. Supposing a hundred persons were stoned to death under that law, very likely ten died innocent. If we are bound to alter the text in one case, why not in the other? Why not in fifty more cases which are strictly parallel? Mr. Guthrie wants the word "charity" superseded by "love." Again I object, and hope others will. The word "love," in its widest and highest modern sense, certainly means a great deal that is not meant by *agape*. I also object to the modification of the passages which offend modern delicacy, and I hope other people will. Romanists and Protestants alike hold the Bible to be the "Word of God," a Revelation; Protestants hold it to be the *only* "word of God," and the greater number of them believe it to be plenarily inspired. As it is, the original is most unjustifiably toned down in certain places by the translators. If we are now to modify again, in terms of to-day's physiology, and to-day's metaphysics, to-day's philanthropy and sentiment, and to-day's delicacy—where are we to stop? I say, Sir, if there is to be a "revision," we had better set to work and fight for such a version as will give us every shade of the original meaning, including the restoration of several of such shades as are already masked even by the existing version. What right the translators had to suppress a certain metaphor by which the scorn of Jehovah is expressed I do not know. Let us have it out. We all understand an expurgated *Jurnal in unum trinum*; but conceive an expurgated Word of God! in the hands of—a Protestant! If a prophet were to appear to-morrow claiming to speak words direct from God intended to guide our lives and lead us to heaven, should we not feel that every word he used—his physiology, his psychology, his choice of phrase in delicate matters, and every other scrap of barely possible significance about him or his message, was a matter of life and death? I rather think we should. And if Mr. Guthrie were to come forward and want to soften down this, that, or the other, on grounds of science or modesty, should we not rightly and indignantly tell him that it would be just as reasonable if every tradesman in Greenwich were to insist on rectifying the Astronomer Royal by a shop-clock?

Besides two articles taking the German side in the present war, and a variety of other matters of interest, the *Fortnightly Review* contains a paper on "Balzac's Novels," by Mr. Leslie Stephen; and one on "Shelley in 1812-13," by Mr. W. M. Rossetti. This last article is of the very deepest interest. Some papers have been dug up out of the Record Office which throw much light upon the poet's movements in 1812-3; disclose the fact that his boyish political escapades were closely watched by Lord Sidmouth; and, above all, have an important bearing upon one of the most difficult of the many puzzling episodes of his life. Most people will remember the wild story about his being shot at one night while he was living in Wales, and the many comments which have been made upon Shelley's and Harriet's account of the matter. Just as with regard to the "manuscript picked up in Lincoln's-inn-fields," critic upon critic has come forward to accuse Shelley of mendacity in the affair; his best friends having been ready to suggest "hallucination"—a thing the world hardly believes in. Yet Mr. Cayley, as readers of this journal will remember, made a discovery in the British Museum one day which restored the "fragment" story to probability, if not moral certainty; and now this discovery of State papers has done as much for the pistol-story. Let those who

believe in Shelley's thorough goodness and honesty take courage. His second wife and his daughter-in-law have both said that his errors of conduct may be freely admitted, with the certainty that if the whole truth were known his character would stand quite high enough to bear a good deal of criticism and yet come out bright and inspiring to an extraordinary degree.

There is plenty more to notice in the *Fortnightly*, and the *Contemporary* is an unusually good number; but this latter must be left till next week, when I will notice the two numbers together.

#### THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

In spite of dogmatic and somewhat impertinent assertions to the contrary, the failure of Mr. Robertson's comedy called "War," at the St. James's, has caused universal regret. Every playgoer in London was hopeful for a genuine success. We all know that Mr. Robertson has done some admirable work. He may be over-rated, and he may not. At any rate, he has supported the dignity of the stage, and has certainly prevented it from losing its patronage, except from buffoons and dilettante swells. It has been asserted with some confidence and not a little arrogance (vide the innuendo in the advertisements throughout the week) that the failure of "War" was owing to a clique which has sprung up on purpose to ruin Mr. Robertson simply because he is successful. Such an assertion is monstrous. Charges of bad faith, even in a minor degree, should not be made unless they can be substantiated. In the present case I put them down to that childish irritability and feminine obstinacy which attach themselves to men's minds under disappointment. For myself, I regret the cold reception of "War" not a little. Mr. Robertson is seriously unwell, and it looks like hitting a man when he is down to condemn a play under such circumstances. From the commencement "War" was surrounded by enemies, but they were enemies of Mr. Robertson's own creation. I am not alluding now to those in the audience who hissed when they were bored and laughed when the sense of the ludicrous was tickled. The principal enemy to "War" was its name. It was considered that Mr. Robertson was too rapidly availing himself of the events of the times; and though I think there is not much to be said for this argument, particularly as the author has touched upon the war question in a perfectly inoffensive fashion, still the subject put up the back of the audience. Then, except a high-sounding title, Mr. Robertson gave us very little else. The audience expected excitement and received a trivial love story ineffectively worked out. Then, again, the acting was very poor, the cast being composed of fair artists, but none of them possessing ability enough to make a success out of such faulty materials. With a weak and undramatic plot, with feeble dialogue, with a dangerous subject, with but moderate scenic effects, and with only second-rate acting, it was hardly to be expected that "War" would be a brilliant success. The management, perhaps, blinded by Mr. Robertson's name, perhaps unable to judge what the public likes, evidently determined that "War" would be the hit of the year. Disappointed, and naturally vexed, the management takes occasion to sneer at the press notices, and to ask patrons of the theatre and the general public to go and see the play and judge for themselves. This advice, when taken, appears to have ended in the same result. The verdict of the first-night audience has been on every occasion confirmed. M. Henri Nertann, if he could talk English better, would be enabled to do more credit to the play. His deliberation is rather ludicrous, and a mad scene in the second act makes the people laugh outright. Miss Brough plays very prettily; and a young lady, Miss Adair, is in every way superior to the vulgar girls who pass for young ladies. Mr. Mervin is over-weighted; and Mr. Brough, as usual, over-acts. At acrobatic feats Mr. Brough is admirable, but as an old naval officer he is, to say the least of it, extraordinary. The moral to be drawn from Mr. Robertson's successes at the Prince of Wales's and his universal failure elsewhere is this: a good company in a small theatre can make some capital out of Mr. Robertson, but he is too slight for a rough company. I have no doubt whatever that "War," had it been produced at the Prince of Wales's, would have gone very well. "Society" and "M.P." which were quite as flimsy, made a name. But then, if "Society" or "M.P." had been produced at our best comedy-theatres—the Haymarket or the St. James's—they would never have been heard of after one week. I am sure Mr. Robertson will now understand, and managers will all understand, that stage pictures for theatres other than the Prince of Wales's must be painted with breadth and vigour.

There have been capital opportunities this week for seeing some very fine acting. Mr. Phelps has played Sir Pertinax MacSycophant since Saturday last, and certainly never acted better. This popular actor has transferred his services to the PRINCESS's from the QUEEN's, where Mr. and Mrs. Rousby are playing in "Twixt Axe and Crown" and rehearsing steadily for "Joan of Arc," which is promised almost immediately.

Miss Constance Bouverie has repeated, at the St. James's Hall, her dramatic recitals, but on a perfectly different footing. She is altogether unaided, and, in costume appropriate to the selection, recites scraps from our best English poets. A little monotony in delivery and a trick of faulty emphasis are the only objections I have to offer. The programme was not of the liveliest description, but it is only fair to admire the industry and enthusiasm of the pretty lady.

Next Saturday a new farce, called "Bubble and Squeak," will be produced at the Vaudeville, and Mrs. John Wood is to re-appear at the St. James's in "Jenny Lind at Last," giving imitations of popular singers. On the following Saturday a great sensation drama by Mr. F. C. Burnand will be produced at the Adelphi. It bears the title of "Deadman's Point; or, The Lighthouse on Carn Ruth."

From some unexplained cause, Mr. and Mrs. German Reed have had to postpone the production of their new entertainment, "A Sensation Novel," till Monday next, Jan. 30. The tickets issued for Jan. 23 will be available on the 30th.

THE MEMBERS FOR BRIGHTON AND THEIR CONSTITUENTS.—The members for Brighton addressed a crowded meeting of their constituents on Monday night. Mr. White expressed sympathy with France since the downfall of the Empire. One effect of the war was a revival of the disgraceful panics common in England. He ridiculed the alarmist talk about our defences, but admitted we had a maximum of cost with a minimum of efficiency. He hoped Mr. Gladstone would be no respecter of persons. He called upon the Duke of Cambridge to resign, amidst loud cheers. Mr. Fawcett, who was received with loud cheers and slight tokens of disapprobation, after pointing out the blemishes in the Education Bill, attacked Mr. Gladstone at some length on account of his ecclesiastical policy, and his attempts to deprive the poor of their public inclosures. He had no sympathy whatever with a certain section of advanced politicians, who were anxious to render armed assistance to France, which, nevertheless, had his warmest sympathies. He regretted that the Government had not recognised the Government of National Defence. A vote of confidence in both members was unanimously passed.

THE GERMAN EMPIRE.—It seems from a letter from Dr. Russell, in the *Times*, that the transformation of the Prussian King into a German Emperor is creating little enthusiasm among the Prussian themselves. The Brandenburgers, who are the backbone of Prussia, as Prussia is the bone and muscle of Germany, did not, and do not, wish for it. A Briton can scarcely enter into the full spirit of the change; nor does a Berliner quite appreciate it. What Germany may gain Prussia may lose. "Now," said a sturdy son of Brandenburg to me to-day, "now begins the war of Germany against Prussia. They hate us—these poor Hanoverians, Hessians, Badenians, Bavarians, Saxons, Wurtembergers—they hate our very name, because we have made them a nation. You will see that they will begin their hostilities as soon as they can—not now. But you will live to see it. The Reichstadt will transfer the seat of Government from Berlin to some old Imperial city, and they will bite and nibble, and bark and gnaw at everything Prussian till there is nothing left." At the very outset there are small difficulties which are great to many Germans—matters of nomenclature which to them represent substances. The army will be Imperial; but the Imperial army will be composed of the Royal armies of Saxony, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, of Grand-Ducal contingents—and, perhaps, there may be a Royal Prussian army with a separate existence.

#### HONG-KONG AND SHANGHAI TELEGRAPH.

On Thursday, Oct. 20, the Great Northern Telegraph (China and Japan Extension) Company commenced the laying of the telegraph cable which is to connect the two great centres of European trade in China—viz., Hong-Kong and Shanghai. Considering that this is the first enterprise of the kind which has ever been undertaken in the Celestial Empire, it is naturally a subject of much interest, not only to those connected with China, but to friends of civilisation and progress generally. The subject of our illustration is the landing of the heavy shore-end in Deep-water Bay, a quiet inlet on the southern side of the picturesque island of Hong-Kong, this bay having been selected by the chiefs of the expedition principally for its seclusion and the rapid deepening of the water close to the land, which in a great measure secures the cable from injury—the sudden inclination of the beach rendering the bay unfit anchorage for the numerous junks and Chinese small craft which swarm round these islands. The two vessels represented in our sketch are the *Tordenskjold*, a Danish frigate, having on board about fifty miles of the Hong-Kong end of the cable; and a British steamer, the *Great Northern*, with 288 miles of the Shanghai end; the intermediate portion, consisting of about 714 miles, being on its way, in the steamer *Cella*. The operation of landing the cable was performed under the able superintendence of Lieutenant Svenson, of the Danish navy, and Mr. Metzen, chief electrician to the expedition, and in the presence of the Lieutenant-Governor of the island, Major-General Whitfield, who was accompanied by several members of the Government. A considerable number of the residents of Hong-Kong were also assembled to witness the ceremony.

The Celestials, with their keen appreciation of everything that facilitates their trade, will, no doubt, make use of the cable as soon as they have discovered that it can really convey a message in a few minutes to their own friends at a port 800 miles distant; but at present John Chinaman appears to have a strong suspicion that the apparatus is intimately associated with Satan. This feeling will, however, soon disappear under the pressure of commercial necessities, and much good may be hoped for from this cable, which in Europe would be considered an almost everyday affair. Let the Chinese merchant once be accustomed to communicate by means of the telegraph wire and we shall probably hear but little of the terrible "fungshuey" evil spirits that are so constantly put forward as the authors of all mischief.

#### "THE FIRST SNOW."

OUR readers will admit that this, at least, is a reasonable illustration, when the thermometer is at ever so many degrees below freezing-point; but it is not because of its seasonableness that it demands special attention. The artist from whose charming little work it is an engraving is an admirable representative of that Düsseldorf school of which we have so often had to speak in terms of praise, and this picture itself is a very good example of those pretty domestic subjects which are frequently chosen to display the quiet power of artists who—like Mr. H. Sonderman—excel in genre painting of exquisite finish. That quaint interior, with its family group; the subdued but excellently-balanced colour; the effect of the cold, keen light coming through the dim, frosted pane; the suggestion of intense cold without and of the gleam of ice as well as snow—all are indicative of practised observation and dexterous handling, two qualifications which go very far towards the education of an artist who deals with pictures like "The First Snow."

THE PORTSMOUTH AND MANSION-HOUSE COMMITTEES for relieving the widows and orphans of those who perished in the Captain have raised nearly £50,000 towards that object. A subscription with the same view has been started in China.

STRIKE OF WEAVERS AT BLACKBURN.—Two hundred weavers employed by Messrs. Coddington Brothers, Blackburn, have struck work, in consequence of that firm infusing steam in weaving-sheds—a process commonly adopted in that town for weighing the cloth and enabling manufacturers to use an over-sized material. This practice was reported to the Privy Council as injurious to the health of the operatives, and one of the causes of the recent high death-rate in Blackburn. A rumour has been spread that the practice was about to become general at Messrs. Coddington's mills, and the weavers refuse to work until the steam-pipes are removed.

REPRESENTATION OF NORWICH.—Mr. J. J. Colman has been finally adopted by the Liberal party at Norwich as their candidate for the seat vacated by Mr. Tillet. Mr. Howell addressed a large meeting of working men on Monday night. He explained his political creed at length, contended that Mr. Colman was not in the field when he became a candidate, and argued that, if working men were to be represented, they must not wait for what might be deemed the proper time and place. A resolution was almost unanimously passed expressing a hope that Mr. Howell would not force himself upon the constituents after the almost unanimous choice of Mr. Colman by the Liberal Executive Council.

WOOLWICH DOCKYARD.—Mr. Cardwell has, through Sir Henry Storks, Surveyor-General of the Ordnance, intimated to Mr. Rugg, Secretary of the Woolwich House-Owner's Association, that the petition of the inhabitants and local board of health against the establishment of an abattoir in Woolwich Dockyard, for the supply of meat to the troops at this and other home stations, will be complied with, and the proposed slaughter-houses abandoned. Among the purposes to which the dockyard will be put by the War Department will be the formation of a large swimming-bath for the soldiers; and a general opinion prevails that the docks, basins, and slips will be preserved intact for the purpose of building ships and gun-boats in case of emergency.

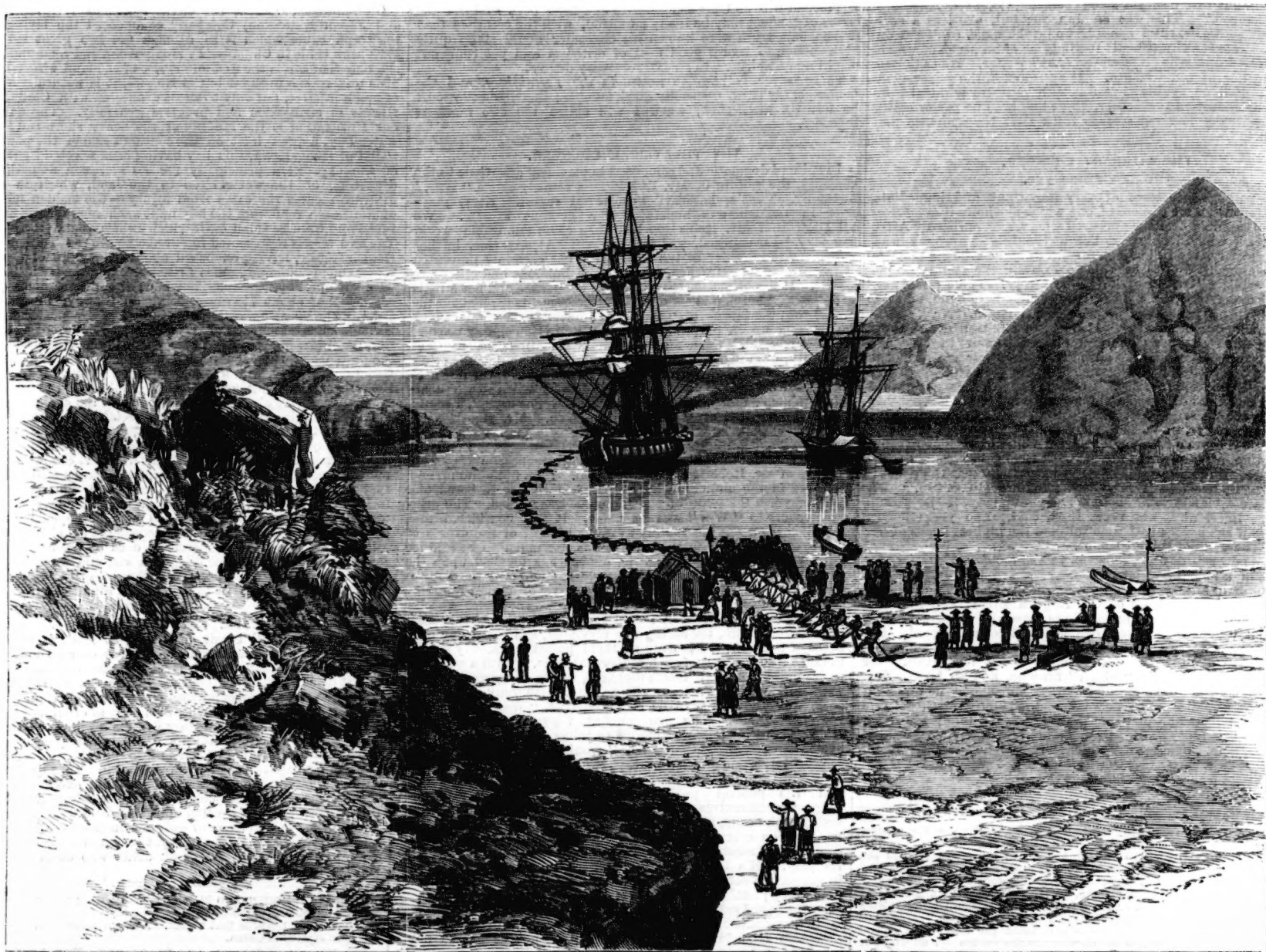
DR. LIVINGSTONE.—Dr. Kirk, writing to Sir Roderick Murchison from Zanzibar, on Dec. 8, quotes from a letter he has received from the great Arab Sheikh Said, from which it is inferred that Dr. Livingstone's time has been occupied in an extensive journey to the west of Lake Tanganyika—a journey of which his friends in England hear for the first time. The illustrious traveller's letters home have, probably, it is conjectured, been destroyed by the Arabs to whom they were confided, and there is, therefore, nothing in the fact of his long-continued silence which should inspire alarm. All this is very satisfactory. Men and goods will meet Dr. Livingstone at the point at which he will require them most; and we may hope before many months have passed to have full particulars both of his explorations and of his safety.

PRIVATE AND TRUST FUNDS.—A question of some importance, both to banking companies and the public, was decided on Monday by Sir James Bacon. A solicitor named Gross, in practice at Ipswich, became bankrupt a few months ago. He had kept a private account with the National Provincial Bank in that town, where also the county accounts were kept in his name as treasurer. At the date of the bankruptcy his private account was overdrawn by £2700, and the bank claimed the right to set off against this the balances standing to the credit of the county accounts amounting to £2972. This claim had been sanctioned by an order of the county-court judge, which was now appealed against. Sir J. Bacon was clearly of opinion that as the bank had sufficient notice of the balances being trust moneys they had no right to deal with them in the way proposed, and allowed the appeal.

A NEW LETTER-CLIP.—Among the most useful novelties of the season connected with the desk and the library we may mention a little clasp or binder for holding letters or loose papers. This handy implement is the invention of Mr. Charles M. Singer, of Ingram-court, Fenchurch-street. It consists of a triangular brass hinge, between the flat sides of which the corners of the papers are inserted and held by small points, which keep them firmly fixed. The hinge being closed, the two outer edges come together, and, as these are fitted with tubes which are thus brought into a direct line, and receive a brass pin through their entire length, the binding is complete, while any of the papers can be removed or replaced with perfect facility. At the end of the brass pin is a hook, by which the clip and its contents may be hung on a nail. The clasp also makes an admirable binder for the corner of the blotting-pad, and effectually prevents the ragged edges and curled-up corners which are the nuisance of blotting-paper in general.

NEW LIFE-BOATS FOR THE COAST OF SCOTLAND.—The National Life-Boat Institution has just sent three fine new life-boats to be stationed on the Scotch coast. One is for Troon and another for Ballantrae, on the shores of Ayrshire, and the third for Buckie, on the coast of Banffshire. Each boat rows ten oars, double banked, and possesses the usual characteristics of the boats of the National Institution in regard to self-righting, self-ejecting water, &c. The Troon boat is the munificent gift to the society of Mrs. Sinclair, of Greenock, in memory of her late daughter, after whom the boat is named the *Mary Sinclair*. The expense of the Ballantrae and Buckie life-boats has been defrayed from legacies left to the society by a lady and gentleman resident in London and named respectively Mrs. Harriet Richardson and Mr. James Sturm. Buckie has had a life-boat for many years past; but Mr. James Sturm's legacy has enabled the institution to replace it by a larger and more powerful boat. The Troon boat was publicly exhibited in Greenock, en route to its station, and is to be launched at Troon to-day (Saturday, the 28th inst.)





LAYING THE HONG-KONG AND SHANGHAI TELEGRAPH CABLE: LANDING THE SHORE END IN DEEPWATER BAY, HONG-KONG.



OUR ARTIST'S QUARTERS IN LE MANS: AN UNPLEASANT AWAKENING.—(SEE PAGE 60.)





"THE FIRST SNOW."—(PICTURE BY H. SONDERMANN.)



SKETCHES NEAR METZ: THE CHATEAU OF LADONCHAMPS.—(SEE PAGE 61.)



## THE CANADIAN FISHERIES.

THE account given in President Grant's Message of the dispute with Canada about the privileges of American fishermen undoubtedly caused some uneasiness in this country. The proceedings of the Dominion Legislature are not much known here beyond the walls of the Colonial Office; and it was feared that this young community, in resentment at the refusal of the Americans to continue reciprocity of commercial intercourse, had been adopting some measures not merely of doubtful policy but of doubtful legality. The documents which tell the story of all that has been done have now been received from Canada; and we are happy to say that, though there may still be a question of the wisdom of some of these recent enactments, they strictly conform to law and precedent. On the assumption that Canada and the United States are dealing with one another at arm's length, the American case is of really astonishing weakness; and the assertion of respectable American newspapers that the grievances of the fishermen are too plain for argument can only be explained by the American habit of taking for granted that Americans complaining of a British Government are necessarily in the right. As the latest correspondence states the capture of several more American fishing-boats on the Canadian coasts, it may be well to describe how it comes that such captures are regarded by Americans in any light different from the capture of a Yankee smuggler running a cargo of brandy on the west coast of Scotland.

The history of the American endeavours to obtain a share of the rich fisheries belonging to England and her colonies begins as early as the treaty of 1783. The United States had secured their independence, but had failed in all their attempts on the territories beyond their present northern boundary, and peace, therefore, had to be made with Canada and the neighbouring settlements still in the hands of the British. In ceasing, however, to be British subjects, the Americans showed great reluctance to divest themselves of some of the privileges which they had derived from their allegiance to the Crown, and by obstinate perseverance they succeeded in getting a provision inserted in the treaty of peace which gave them some limited rights of taking fish on the coast of Newfoundland and in other British American waters, and of drying and curing their fish on the unsettled shores of countries which were then for the most part desolate. The article conferring these privileges was extremely ambiguous; but it was abrogated, under the well-known rule of the Law of Nations, by the outbreak of the war of 1812. The Treaty of Ghent followed: it contained no stipulation about the fisheries, the British Commissioners having declined to renew the old privileges, except in return for the free navigation of the Mississippi, which the Americans refused to grant. Both countries were thus re-mitted to their international rights; but, as might be expected, American fishermen were constantly trespassing on the waters now forbidden to them, and a long series of remonstrances on both sides produced at last the Convention of 1818, which is still in force. The right which the Americans were the most eager to recover was the right to take fish on the coast of Newfoundland, and this was conceded to them; but as regards the very fishing-grounds now in question, the Convention contains the following very distinct provision:—"The United States hereby renounce for ever any liberty heretofore enjoyed or claimed by the inhabitants thereof to take, dry, or cure fish on or within three marine miles of any of the coasts, bays, creeks, or harbours of his Britannic Majesty's dominions in America not included within the above-mentioned limits; provided, however, that the American fishermen shall be admitted to enter such bays or harbours for the purpose of shelter and of repairing damages therein, of purchasing wood, and of obtaining water, and for no other purpose whatever. But they shall be under such restrictions as may be necessary to prevent their taking, drying, or curing fish therein, or in any other manner whatever abusing the privileges hereby conceded to them." A perusal of this article of solemn renunciation will at once show why it is that President Grant's complaints take the form of remonstrances against "unfriendly" and "unneighbourly" conduct. The law which justifies the proceedings complained of is in truth so clear that it would drive anybody who has not General Butler's temperament to despair. During the interval between 1818 and 1854 American fishermen were constantly found and captured within the forbidden waters; and many an American statesman would have liked to pick a hole in the prohibitory article; but, till General Butler came, all the acuteness brought to bear on it succeeded in raising only one question on its text. The English Government considered that the Bay of Fundy was one of the bays included within the provisions of the article; and the view happened to have American example in its favour, since precisely similar jurisdiction was claimed by the United States over Delaware Bay. But several American Secretaries of State contended that the Bay of Fundy was not a bay, but an arm of the sea; so that the reserved waters, instead of including the whole bay, were confined to three marine miles along the coast. It is remarkable, however, that this point is not now in question. The Canadians do not claim to exclude the Americans from these great bays, but merely from three miles of water next the shore, and from creeks or bays of which the mouth is less than ten miles wide. The attack of the President is merely on the measures by which the exclusion secured by the treaty is enforced within limits which have never been the subject of dispute. As for these measures, we are bound to say that, if nothing but their international legality were in question, the strong language of the Convention of 1818 would justify enactments even more stringent. They are not, as we at first feared, the fruit of some wholly novel policy of retaliation. They are re-enactments by the Dominion Legislature of older provincial regulations which were made at the express instance of the law officers of the British Crown, who many years ago explained that, though the Convention of 1818 excluded American fishermen from British American waters, the exact penalties to be incurred and procedure of exclusion to be followed must be fixed by provincial statutes. This, we need scarcely say, is a logical inference from the doctrine of public law that three marine miles of sea must be taken as part of the adjacent shore.

Why, however, these re-enactments were required at a particular time, and why politicians like General Butler should chafe at them, may be very easily explained. In 1854 the Reciprocity Treaty between the British North American colonies and the United States was negotiated, and part of the consideration given by the colonists for the commercial liberties conceded by the Americans was the admission of American fishing-boats to the waters hitherto forbidden to them. Ten years later the American Government put an end to the treaty, partly out of defence to its Protectionist supporters, partly out of ill-will to Great Britain. The losses which the Americans have suffered through the measure thus adopted are of course counted as gains by the Protectionists; and at first sight one does not perceive why the loss of the fishing-grounds should have been exceptionally regretted. The exclusion of Nova Scotian cod, which depresses the price of the national cod, ought on principle to be deemed a good riddance. But some results of Protectionist theory are too much for Protectionists; and the Americans of the North-Eastern States grumblingly acquiesced in the natural consequence of the step they had clamoured for. Their fishermen went on with the expeditions, which had now become trespasses. At first the Canadians offered to admit them if they would take out colonial licenses, but the fishermen preferred taking their chance without a license. It was only in the last resort that the Dominion re-enacted the series of penal measures of which President Grant complains.

President Grant's remonstrance is a new application of that most dangerous doctrine of international benevolence which threatens to take away the whole value of international law. In point of strict legality, he has absolutely no case whatever, as is more than shown by our extract from the Convention of 1818, which itself merely declares the rule of the general law of nations; but, for want of a case in law, the President transfers his litigation

to a new and a wholly irregular forum. Appeals to the friendly consideration of a neighbour may be made, and ought to be encouraged; but the proper position of the parties is wholly inverted when, instead of a request for friendliness, we have a complaint of unfriendliness.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

## MR. MOTLEY'S RECALL.

THE official correspondence relative to Mr. Motley's recall fills a closely-printed page of the *New York Tribune* of the 10th inst. Mr. Motley writes, Dec. 7, that he communicated the fact of his recall to the British Foreign Secretary, Nov. 22, and took leave of the Queen Dec. 6, the delay being due to her absence in Scotland, and on the 7th he committed the archives into the hands of Mr. Moran, the Secretary of Legation. It seems that Mr. Motley received, July 13, a letter from Mr. Fish, informing him that "the President finds it desirable to make a change in the mission to England, and that he wishes to allow you (Mr. Motley) the opportunity of resigning in case you feel inclined to do so." This was preceded by a few hours by a telegram directing him to reply by telegraph, which he did, requesting Mr. Fish to inform the President he declined the opportunity to resign, for reasons set forth in a letter of that day. He then alludes to the nomination and confirmation of Mr. Frelinghuysen, and adds:—"Thus, my reception of the President's first and only notification to me, my refusal by telegraph to resign, the nomination of a successor, and his confirmation by the Senate, were events all comprised within about forty-eight hours."

Mr. Motley thus gives his reasons for refusing to resign:—"No reasons are given why I should resign the post to which I was appointed by the President fifteen months ago, with, I believe, the unanimous consent of the Senate. As I, myself, know of none, and as I am not conscious of ever having committed to carry out, to the best of my ability, the policy and instructions of the President during the period of my mission, I fail to perceive why I should be asked to offer my resignation. Certainly it is not my wish to embarrass an Administration which I have always faithfully supported, but I owe something to myself. Were I now to make use of the permission accorded me to resign, it would seem I did so in order to avoid a removal which I knew to be just, and to escape a stigma which I felt to be deserved. As I know the record of my mission, as it stands on the archives of the Department and of this Legation, to be free from intentional fault, and as I have therefore no reason to shun the strictest scrutiny in this regard, I do not like to have even the appearance of making a contrary admission."

The reply of Mr. Fish to Mr. Motley's protest against his removal gives us assurance that the negotiations which are about to be renewed for the settlement of the Alabama claims will be conducted in a more moderate and statesman-like spirit on the American side than we have hitherto met with. Mr. Fish condemns in emphatic language the exaggerations and the appeals to the passions in which Mr. Sumner indulged, and he not only expressly admits that in recognising Confederate belligerency England did not go beyond her right, but he censures Mr. Motley for not having made it clear to Lord Clarendon that he did so. Speaking of Mr. Motley's appointment, Mr. Fish says it was expected he would represent the views of his Government, but that before he left America "it became apparent that upon a question of controlling interest at that moment, occupying the attention of the thoughtful and the prudent to restrain the passions which had been excited by eloquent declamation and powerful rhetoric, Mr. Motley accepted the views upon which popular excitement had been stimulated and wrought to the verge of dangerous irritation rather than those which the President deemed to be sound and based upon the true principles of public law." Mr. Motley, it appears, had prepared a memoir on the Alabama claims, which he submitted to Mr. Fish. The Secretary of State rejected his memoir, as "it was written with a full impression of the views presented in a then recent debate in the Senate, and abounded in forcible expressions, and strong epithets, and terms of denunciation, not appropriate to the calm discussion of a grave international difference, and little calculated to allay existing excitement or irritation, or to induce her Majesty's Government to lend a patient ear to the presentation of the American case." Mr. Motley was then furnished with instructions, the tone, temper, and language of which, we are told, were conciliatory. "The positive instructions to Mr. Motley as to what he must say were limited to two points:—First, he was directed to say to Lord Clarendon that his Government, in rejecting the recent Convention, abandoned neither its own claims nor those of its citizens, nor the hope of an easy, satisfactory, and friendly settlement of the questions pending between the two Governments. Second, he was further instructed that, in his private and social intercourse, as well as in his official conversations, when it should become necessary, he should place the cause of grievance of the United States against Great Britain not so much upon her issuance of the recognition of the insurgents' state of war as upon her conduct under and subsequent to such recognition. The President held, in accordance with the doctrine of the best writers upon international law, and with the precedents of our own history, and as a logical result from the fact of national sovereignty, that it is the right of every Power, when a civil conflict has arisen within another State, and has attained a sufficient complexity, magnitude, and completeness, to defend its own relations and those of its citizens and subjects towards the parties to the conflict, so far as their rights and interests are necessarily affected by it. Mr. Motley was instructed that such were the President's views, which he was to present, and that while the President regarded the necessity and propriety of the original concession of belligerency by Great Britain as 'questionable,' he regarded that concession as part of the case only so far as it shows the beginning and the animus of that course of conduct which resulted so disastrously to the United States. That it was not to be treated as the gravamen of the complaint the instructions made more clear by their reference to the fact that there were other Powers that were contemporaneous with Great Britain who made similar concessions; but that in England only had the concessions been followed by acts resulting in direct damage to the United States." Mr. Fish goes on to point out that, in the teeth of these instructions, Mr. Motley used the language of his rejected "memoir." He talked "of the gravity of the occasion," of the "burning questions of grievance." More than once he is said to have gone to the very verge of admissible diplomatic suggestion in alluding, without any authority in his instructions for such menacing or threatening intimations, to the contingencies which would depend on negotiations concerning such vital questions.

Lord Granville, in a letter to Mr. Motley dated Dec. 5, says:—"I am commanded to express to you her Majesty's sincere esteem, and her regret at your departure from this country. I thank you much for the kind expressions with regard to my predecessor and myself which are contained in your note. It was to him, as it has been to me, an agreeable duty to communicate with you on the affairs of our respective countries. I shall be happy to address to Mr. Moran, as you request, any communications which it may be necessary to make to the Legation."

The *New York Tribune*, in an article on the correspondence, expresses the opinion that the manner of Mr. Motley in his record of the circumstances of his recall is most courteous and dignified, nowhere betraying the anger which it is natural to suppose he felt, and his letter will win him applause. However much men may differ on reading the correspondence as to his failure in carrying out the instructions of the Government, none will deny, what is so evident, that he laboured with zeal in the direction he conceived to be the proper one. The reply of Mr. Fish reveals that Mr. Motley represented the views of Senator Sumner rather than those of the President.

THE NATIONAL REVENUE from April 1 to Jan. 21 amounted to £20,099,626, and the expenditure to £26,455,904.

## MR. G. O. TREVELYAN ON ARMY REFORM.

MR. G. O. TREVELYAN has addressed to the newspapers a letter on Army Reform, of which the following is the chief portion:—

"Our requirements in men should be limited to what would enable us to garrison our arsenals, to hold Ireland, and to crush at once and effectually an invading army of 80,000 men. We keep up the greatest naval force in the world in order to give us a security which Continental nations cannot enjoy; and if our fleet does not relieve us from the necessity of universal military service, it is a question whether it would not be advisable to save the £10,000,000 which it annually costs us."

"In order to obtain enough soldiers of the quality which we require, three great principles must be established, for each and all of which it would be easy to adduce high military authority. The Line and the Militia must be amalgamated, our regiments must be attached to special localities in which they should be quartered, and whence they should be recruited; and in the case of recruits who join for home service (answering to the present militiamen), continuous service of from six months to a year should be enforced at the commencement of their military career. Without a period of continuous service it is impossible for men to acquire the habits of instant obedience and unqualified submission to military superiors which characterise the soldier."

"The whole island should be re-divided into military districts. The present districts were arranged in days when locomotion was difficult, and when our danger lay in one quarter only; and consequently the south of England is almost minutely subdivided, while vast regions in the north, comprising an enormous manufacturing population, are embraced under a single command. The military districts of the future should be allotted strictly according to the amount of population, and should each be the seat of an army corps. The entire equipment and provisioning of the corps should be carried on from the head-quarters of the district in which it is stationed. The local staff should be responsible for the issue of stores and for all contracts which could be made advantageously within the district; while the duties of the Central Office of Control would be confined to keeping the local magazines full and to a general economical supervision. We should thus, and thus only, be enabled to introduce the much-admired Prussian system of supply. The distribution of our Army into local corps would likewise facilitate the adoption of the yearly muster and manoeuvres, by which our soldiers of the Reserve would be kept in wind, our officers would learn the practice of their art, and the strong and weak points of our organisation would be brought out and ascertained by a process which would fairly represent the ordeal of active service."

"Our regiments should consist of three battalions, and each battalion of four companies of from 180 to 200 men, officered by five officers apiece. Modern warfare imperatively demands, and the example of Continental armies teaches, that the unit of battle should be much larger than our company, and much smaller than our battalion. The Prussian companies are 250 strong, somewhat under-officered by five officers. In action everything depends on the captain, and 200 men are about the number that can be kept well in hand by one officer. Each regiment should be commanded by a working and not an honorary colonel, and each battalion by a lieutenant-colonel."

"Each of the three battalions would therefore contain about 750 men, and twenty-three field and company officers. The first battalion of every regiment would be liable to foreign service in time of war and peace alike, and would consist of men enlisted for seven years' continuous service; the other two would be for home service. The cadre of each company would consist of long-service men (enlisted for from three to seven years) to the extent of the non-commissioned officers and a certain number (say ten to twenty) of privates. The ranks of the home battalions would be filled by men enlisted from the neighbourhood in which the regiment is permanently stationed, who, on first joining, should be drilled continuously for a year, or for the nine months which are not harvesting or haymaking months; and who, after the continuous drill was over, should be liable to a fortnight's annual service at the time of the yearly manoeuvres, which should henceforward become a national institution. The home battalions should be commanded by army lieutenant-colonels and majors, and the companies should each have two or three army officers, supplemented in war time, and during the annual manoeuvres (when the whole battalion should be called out), by men of the class of our present militia officers; who, before they earned their commissions, should serve for a year at the head-quarters of the regiment, six months of which at least should be passed in the ranks. With the amalgamation of the Line and the Militia the connection of the Lord Lieutenants with our local forces would drop of itself."

"At the rate of twenty-three army officers to a foreign battalion, and thirteen to a home battalion, our present number of officers of the foot guards and the Line would suffice to command 110 regiments or 230 battalions, containing about 240,000 rank and file. Of these one third would belong to battalions liable to foreign service—an amply sufficient number, for, one year with another, our Indian and colonial service does not require more than 70,000 infantry soldiers. There would remain more than enough to supply the infantry for Lord Russell's home army of 200,000 men."

"The regiments of this new army should be attached each to a special locality, and a special brigade, and the brigades, again, to a special division. We should keep exactly as many Generals as we want to command our corps, brigades, and divisions, and to do service at foreign stations, and no more. In the new army rank should mean service, and when a General is past service he should retire upon an adequate pension. We should have no more unattached officers of any rank whatsoever, and no more half pay, except for such as are temporarily involved."

"The War Office should give every encouragement to the formation of battalions of volunteers; organised in every respect similarly to regular battalions; enjoying the same advantages of equipment, and of supply when in the field; attached to a particular army regiment, and under the orders of its Colonel. The men should be all of military age, ready to submit themselves to military discipline and obligations, and led by officers who have given the State a guarantee that they are fit for their posts. Such battalions can, for the most part, only exist in towns. An effective volunteer organisation on a sufficiently extended scale it is next to impossible to maintain permanently in rural districts; which, moreover, would be the natural field for obtaining a supply of recruits for the home army. We should be justified in diminishing our home army in a certain proportion to the number of our volunteer battalions. But, till we have once had an efficient system established and in working order, we cannot begin to economise to any purpose. When we have learned what efficiency is, and what it costs, we may then, and not till then, cease to be for ever spending in wrong directions under the influence of periodic panic and chronic jobbery. I propose to conclude my remarks in another letter, and remain, yours very faithfully, G. O. TREVELYAN."

"Jan. 24."

MR. GLADSTONE AND GREENWICH.—Last Saturday evening a meeting, convened by the Borough of Greenwich Advanced Liberal Association, was held at the Mitre Inn, for the purpose of "protesting against the persistent and unjustifiable course of action adopted by a small section of anonymous agitators in this borough, who are still hawking about for signature a requisition to Mr. Gladstone asking him to resign his seat for this place." The chair was taken by Mr. Pegg. Mr. Stokes moved the adoption of a vote of confidence in Mr. Gladstone, to which was appended a memorial praying him to take into consideration certain measures during the ensuing Session. The meeting considered it would not be advisable to encumber any vote of confidence in Mr. Gladstone with a memorial for certain legislative measures. The mover said he was quite willing to withdraw the memorial part. Mr. Elmore considered that the borough generally were satisfied with Mr. Gladstone. The resolution was adopted; as was another, requesting the committee of the association to call an early meeting for the purpose of convening a large meeting of Liberal electors in the Lecture-Hall.



## PROFESSOR TYNDALL ON THE WATER SUPPLY OF LONDON.

At the Royal Institution, the other evening, Professor Tyndall delivered a lecture upon the "Scattering of Light," which was, in fact, a discourse upon domestic water supply. The learned Professor commenced by exhibiting the impurities of London air, the moths of a sunbeam, by the light of the electric lamp, and explained to his audience that what they saw was not air, but suspended particles, capable of being dissipated or removed, and that when so removed the track of the beam through the air itself would be invisible. He next related that he had accompanied the eclipse expedition to Oran, and that, on his return, having been disappointed as regards the special object of his journey, he had sought to turn his opportunities to account by investigating the causes of the varying tints presented by sea water. After paying a warm tribute to the zeal and kindness with which his wishes had been furthered by the captain and officers of her Majesty's ship *Urgent*, he described the way in which a series of nineteen ship lugs had been filled, between Gibraltar and Spithead, and the results of an examination of them by the electric light. The bottles were themselves on the table, but were not placed in the beam before the audience, since the original differences among them had been diminished by subsidence. The general tendency of the examination was to show that the yellowish water of coasts and harbours held in suspension a large quantity of particles; that the particles in the green water were less abundant and in finer division; and that the blue water of the deep ocean was comparatively free. Professor Tyndall explained the blue or even blue-black of the depths by displaying the prismatic spectrum on the screen, and by quenching it, at first partially and with regard to certain colours, and afterwards absolutely, by a succession of cells of increasing thickness, containing a solution of permanganate of potash or of sulphate of copper. He said that when a beam of light entered the sea, the heat rays were absorbed by the surface, the red rays by a very superficial layer of water, the green rays next, and ultimately the blue. If, however, the light encountered particles, these would reflect the green rays to an observer; while, in the absence of particles, the green rays would continue their course till they were wholly quenched. Water of great depth and absolute purity would thus appear entirely black, like a sea of ink, and would reflect no light beyond a glimmer from its surface. The Professor exhibited a white dinner-plate, to which a rope was attached, which he was in the habit of having cast overboard and towed from the *Urgent*, and which always appeared green; and he also described the appearances seen on looking down the screw-well of the ship, so that the water was seen by turns green—with the screw-blades as a background—and then dark blue, with the ocean depths for a background. The white plate, which appeared as a green object when towed under water, would, he said, if ground to powder and scattered, cause the portion in which this powder was suspended to return a general green reflection. Having in this way established that the visibility of the track of a beam through water depended upon particles by which the light was reflected, Professor Tyndall next placed before the electric lamp a succession of nine bottles, containing samples of the water supplied to their customers by the various London water companies. The turbidity revealed was in every case sufficient to make the audience regard water as a very undesirable beverage. That of the Lambeth Company displayed pre-eminence of a bad kind; that of the Kent Company was by far the clearest; the West Middlesex Company stood second in order of merit, and among the rest there was little to choose. With a reticence more eloquent than words, the lecturer avoided expressing opinions about the dirt that he exhibited; and he also expressly mentioned that pellucidity was no proof of the absence of soluble impurities. He also showed that to cleanse water from suspended dirt was a very difficult matter; and exhibited four specimens of distilled water—a specimen once filtered by Mr. Lipscombe, a specimen that had gone through a silicated carbon filter, and a specimen four times filtered through bibulous paper in the Royal Institution laboratory. These were clear when compared with the water of the companies; but the track of the beam was plainly visible in all. A specimen of water from the Lake of Geneva was then exhibited in illustration of great natural purity, and here a faint blue line only could be seen. This brought Professor Tyndall to the practical conclusion at which he had been aiming—namely, to an account of the water supply yielded by the English chalk formations. He characterised this as being of the greatest attainable purity, inexhaustible in quantity, and easily accessible for the supply of the metropolis. He described its natural hardness as being such as to render it unfit for domestic use, but explained that by Clark's process this hardness could be entirely removed at the central works, and that the water might be delivered in London at a uniform temperature, free from organic impurity or suspended particles, and so soft as to be perfectly adapted for all household purposes. He described Clark's process, and illustrated it before the audience, and finally showed actual results by producing a bottle of water from Canterbury, derived from the chalk, and softened in the manner described. By the side of this was a similar bottle containing the water supplied to the Institution, and the two were illuminated together by way of contrast. The difference was like that between peasepud and crystal. Professor Tyndall then read a portion of the report made some years ago by the late Professors Graham and Miller and by Professor Hofmann, upon the admirable qualities of this chalk water, when artificially softened, upon its fitness for the supply of the metropolis, and upon the impolicy of allowing it to pass into private hands; and concluding by saying that every word that he had read he desired fully and cordially to indorse.

As is usual when Professor Tyndall lectures, the theatre and gallery were densely crowded, and many distinguished personages (among others the Chancellor of the Exchequer) were to be seen among the audience.

**HUNGARIAN MISERS.**—Ladislav Chiliany, the possessor, according to Pesth newspapers, of 2,000,000*fl.*, recently died at Eperies, in Upper Hungary. He was eighty-six years of age, and had never had any illness. His elder brother Anthony died a few years ago through his unwillingness to purchase any medicine, and they died with each other in parsimony. They ate so little that it was a wonder how they could keep body and soul together; their furniture was in a ruinous condition, and their dress was so old and threadbare that the original colour could not be distinguished. Anthony wore no clothes in the house, as he was afraid of wearing them out. They hardly ever gave alms, but the younger brother once banded a ten-kreuzer piece to a beggar, requiring nine kreutzers in exchange. They never subscribed a penny to benevolent purposes, and they once thought of bequeathing their property to some person with a threat that he would incur their maledictions if he spent any of it. They have taken precautions against the principal being diminished. They have left 100 *fl.* to the Franciscans for a yearly mass. They never paid or received visits. It was remarked at Ladislav's funeral that the brothers would certainly have risen from their graves had they known the expense incurred in conducting the ceremony.

**SICK CLUBS.**—A doctor's bill is not a pleasant thing to any man. To a working man it is always a thing of fear; and one of the most important points in connection with sick clubs is that, for their members, they practically do away with doctors' bills. When a man who belongs to a sick club rises from an illness, he is not haunted by the thoughts of the coming bill or how to meet it. Nor is that the only advantage which a member of a sick club has in relation to doctors. A working man who is not in a club may feel very unwell—so unwell that he would gladly consult a doctor, but that the fear of the subsequent bill is before his eyes; so he "hangs on," hoping that he will get better, but instead of that he continues to grow worse and worse, until at length he is laid on a sick bed, and the doctor has performed to be sent for, the dread of his bill notwithstanding. The club man, on the other hand, is, by the terms of the contract between the club and the doctor, at liberty to consult the latter whenever he likes, and, on feeling any premonitory symptoms of serious illness, at once hastens to do so; and in this way a disease that, if allowed to develop unchecked by medical skill, would end by laying a man up for months, and perhaps permanently impairing his constitution, is often nipped in the bud. The manifold advantages to working men of belonging to sick clubs are so palpable that most of them belong to some form of such clubs. That the club is popular with employers is testified to by the circumstance that in establishments in which there is a yard club, the work-hop fines are almost invariably given to the funds of the club.—*Leisure Hour.*

## Literature.

*The Great Invasion of 1813-14; or, After Leipsic.* By MM. ERCKMANN-CHATRIAN, Authors of "Waterloo," "The Corsair," "The Blockade," &c. London: Ward, Lock, and Tylor.

It is needless to enlarge on the talent, the skill, the power, the simplicity, and the genuine naturalness that distinguish the works of the authors of "La Bataille." Every one who has read the books enumerated above—and he or she who has not is much to be pitied—is familiar with these characteristics; and as this is not the first issue of "The Great Invasion," it is only necessary to say that the meritorious features so prominent in the other productions of the authors are equally displayed here. The book deals with another phase of the events partially portrayed in "The Blockade," being a story of the entry of the allied forces into Alsace and Lorraine after the Battle of Leipsic, called "the battle of the kings and nations." That "great invasion," which one Emperor Napoleon brought upon France, has now been followed—shall we say eclipsed?—by another, and greater, invasion, brought upon the land by another Emperor Napoleon; for, whatever may be thought of the part the French people had in provoking the war with Germany, and whatever opinion may be entertained as to the readiness of the German (or rather the Prussian) rulers to accept the challenge so rashly offered to them, there cannot be a doubt that had Napoleon III. been wise, prudent, and unselfish, the struggle which is desolating the country he ruled so badly and decimating the people whose liberties and safety he betrayed, might have been averted, if not entirely, at least till preparations for carrying it on effectively had been more complete than events have proved them to have been. It takes two to make a quarrel; and, eager as Bismarck may have been for a rupture, as thick-and-thin partisans of France say he was, he could not have found an occasion had not France and the Emperor furnished him with the opportunity. That meets the plea that the Prussian King and his Minister really made the war, the Emperor Napoleon and his subjects being merely dragged into it; and these facts must also be the source of sad reflections to MM. Erckmann-Chatrian, whose books have been written with the object, and in the hope, of curing their countrymen of the fatal war-fever that has in more than one instance brought disaster upon them: notably in 1813-14 and in 1870-71. But, though our authors have failed, so far, in effecting the national purpose they aimed at in writing their works, they have unquestionably achieved an individual triumph; if they have unhappily not made their countrymen wise, they have rendered their own names famous.

In reading this book, one or two things forcibly strike the mind. In the first place, it is difficult to believe that, had the men of Alsace been as determined to resist invasion in 1870 as were their fathers in 1813, the Crown Prince of Prussia could have made his way across the Vosges as easily as he did, his victory at Worth notwithstanding. In the second place, it is curious to note that the majority of the men who rose spontaneously in 1813, and, unaided by either Governmental or military authority, manned their rugged mountain defiles against the Germans and Russians, bear distinctly Teutonic names, thus showing that their hearts were with France and not with Germany, despite their kinship of blood with the people of the latter country. If a like spirit animates the men of Alsace and Lorraine now, Count Bismarck will probably find the task of ruling them, when annexed, somewhat difficult. In the third place, we find that the vexed questions of France-Tireurs and other volunteers taking part in the war, and the German mode of dealing with them, are not new. They came to the surface in 1813 as in 1870, as witness the subjoined extract. John Claud Hullin, an old soldier who had been chosen leader by the Vosgean patriots, is giving directions to a subordinate he is sending on a scouting expedition, and who wished to go armed, in the hope of being able to "bring down" a Cossack or two:—

"You have nothing to do with bringing down anyone; all you have to do is to keep a look-out and see what is going on. Frantz and Kasper can remain armed; but for you, I know you, and you must leave your carbine here, as well as your powder-flask and hunting-knife."

"What for?"

"Why, because you will have to go into the villages, and if you were taken armed you would be shot on the spot."

"Shot?"

"Not a doubt of it. We are not regular troops; they do not take us prisoners—they shoot us. So you will proceed on your way to Scherneck, with a stick in your hand, and your sons will accompany you and keep at a distance under shelter of the hedges and with gun-shot. If any marauders attack you, they will come to your assistance; but if it is a column or a squadron, they will let you be taken."

"They will let me be taken?" indignantly exclaimed the old huntsman; "I should like to see that."

"Yes, Materno; and it will be the best way; for an unarmed man they will let go; an armed man they will shoot."

Finally, it appears that King William's proclamation to the French people on crossing the frontier had a counterpart (perhaps a model) in 1813, and probably the one was as great a source of misunderstanding as the other has been. Thus we read in the work before us:—

The old innkeeper, leaning his two great red hands on the arm of his chair, rose, panting and puffing like an ox, and placed himself before the placard, with his arms a-kimbo, while, with a pompous tone, he read a proclamation from the Allied Sovereigns declaring that they were making war against Napoleon personally, and not against France; in consequence of which everyone was to remain quiet, and not to interfere in the matter, under pain of being burnt, pillaged, and shot.

Does not that sound very much like a summary of the Royal proclamation dated Aug. 11, 1870?

It would be a pity to spoil the reader's interest in "The Great Invasion" by detailing its incidents. Suffice it to say that it is an admirably-drawn picture of a heroic, but unsuccessful, effort of patriotism—a picture of peculiar significance and value just now.

*The Clerical Year-Book and Preacher's Annual Assistant for 1871.* Edited by "Clericus." London: A. G. Dennant.

This is the first annual issue of a publication intended especially for the use of clergymen. It contains much information about the several religious bodies in these kingdoms, especially concerning the established churches. We notice, however, a very extraordinary omission and a still more extraordinary assertion. The omission is this, that in recording the names, numbers, constitution, principles, &c., of Scottish religious bodies no mention whatever is made of the United Presbyterian Church, the editor, apparently, being unconscious that such a communion exists; and this in a book affecting to tell us all about the churches of Great Britain! Perhaps this ignorance may account for the extraordinary statement we have referred to—viz., that in Scotland "the Church population exceeds that of all the other Presbyterian bodies united." Possibly the editor includes the United Presbyterians among the "Church population," and so arrives at his "estimate" that the adherents of the Establishment number "about half the whole population of Scotland." A more misleading statement could not be made. If all non-churchgoers be reckoned as "Church population," an apparent warrant for the "estimate" may be made out; but this would be deceptive to the last degree in judging of the relative strength of parties; whereas, if the only true test—that of counting communicants, seatholders, or attenders upon worship—be adopted, the Church of Scotland would have to yield the post of honour, and take second, if not third, place. But as "Clericus" is, we presume, a Churchman, he may deem the way of counting he has followed justifiable; still, nothing can excuse his ignoring entirely one out of the three leading religious bodies of Scotland—a body that numbers its adherents by hundreds of thousands, whose places of worship are to be found in every city, town, and village, and whose ministers are second to none in ability, zeal, and culture. The United Presbyterians,

by-the-by, are Voluntaries, in principle as well as in practice: is that the reason why "Clericus" knows them not? A feature of this publication which will probably be prized by the clerical world, is that it contains the substance of a sermon for every Sunday in the year. The work is calculated to be useful; but the editor must avoid such blunders as those we have pointed out.

## BOOKS FOR BOYS.

*The Land of the Sun.* By Lieutenant C. R. Low. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

*The Hunting Grounds of the Old World.* By the OLD SHEKARRY. New Edition. London: Routledge and Sons.

*Wonders of Bodily Strength and Skill.* By CHARLES RUSSELL. London: Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

*The Orville College Boys.* By Mrs. HENRY WOOD. London: George Routledge and Sons.

We have placed these four books together because they are so different in style; and yet each is so interesting in itself that they would, collectively, form one of the most reasonable presents which could serve to fill up the leisure hours which most boys, we hope, can manage to snatch from work, at school or elsewhere.

Lieutenant Low is already so well known to a large number of boys as the author of tales of adventure in the sea service that any book of his is sure of a fair welcome. "The Land of the Sun," although it is more suitable for elder lads, is likely to add to this reputation, and is especially commendable because of its excellent descriptions of places which have recently been brought into general notice by their association with the Abyssinian war and the opening of the Suez Canal. Aden, Perim, the Somaliland, Massowah, Jeddah, the Andaman Islands, Ormuz, Muscat, the Persian Gulf, Arabia, Bussorah, and Bagdad, are visited in turn, and the visits are all connected with some story of adventure and very vivid descriptions of the natives and the country, which have the charm of being told by the actual observer in such a natural way, that he brings, as it were, his own personal manner into the book—and that being a hearty, genial, and sailor-like manner, with something of the freshness of sea air and the raciness of salt water, the result is a volume which will suit old boys as well as young ones, and may be bought and read by the former with a view to that parting gift which so aptly marks the close of the holiday time.

In "The Hunting Grounds of the Old World" the Old Shekarry tells some of his old stories about tiger, deer, boar, bison, lion, bear, and elephant hunting in India, Ceylon, Circassia, Algeria, and the great plains and mountains of the Old World. Some of these narratives are exciting, and others not without a dash of humour; while all of them are told with the easy assurance of an experienced hunter who can be circumstantial even when he may be supposed to draw a little longer bow than usual—that is to say, when he indulges in slight chaff of the reader. It is only the uninitiated who would doubt the truth of the details of these stirring stories, however, for the local colouring forbids doubt; and even the wildest of the tales is no more improbable than the repeated accounts of travellers and sportsmen will amply justify. Beside a great deal of information about forest life, and some excellent advice and suggestions on the subject of sporting gear, clothes, travelling kit, fowling-pieces, rifles, and arms, the book contains several very interesting passages in reference to Hindoo life. If we must deprecate any part of the volume, regarded as a book for boys, it would be some poetical recollections of supposed love passages between the writer and native beauties; but these are comparatively innocuous, and the description of certain wild tribes and little known races of India are very interesting and instructive. As a volume of wild sport and hunting adventure, this is certainly the best we have seen; and the book is sure to gain admirers, if only for the wonderful "tiger stories," which are always so attractive to general readers.

Though of quite a different order, as having rather a classical air about it, "Wonders of Bodily Strength and Skill" deserves a place on the school bookshelves. It is one of a series called the "Library of Wonders," and is of French origin, being a translation and amplification of the work of Guillaume Depping. It is divided into three parts—"Bodily Strength," "Bodily Skill," and "Skill of the Eye and Hand;" and in each part the accounts of the practices and achievements of ancient professors of athletics form an interesting historical episode. There are numerous amusing anecdotes and a large number of excellent illustrations, many of them taken from ancient sculptures and pottery, showing modes of wrestling, racing, fighting, and tight-rope dancing among the "professors" of antiquity, while the modern athlete and the modern artist and acrobat are not forgotten. As a book of short anecdotes on the subject of remarkable exhibitions of physical activity and prowess the volume is interesting; but it is also attractive because of its reference to the rather mythical feats of which most of us have heard in connection with the heroic age, when bodily culture was carried to that high degree of perfection towards which some modern efforts seem to be less successfully directed. The stories range from the accounts of Milo and his wonderful feats to the biography of Topham; and from the pugilists of old Rome to Broughton, the father of English boxing, and the match between Sayers and Heenan. The tales of archery are also well chosen, from the doings of Toke, the original performer of the extraordinary feat of shooting an apple from his son's head—an achievement afterwards imitated by William of Cloudeley, and later by William Tell—to the Indians of Florida, and the marvellous strength and skill by which they made their reed arrows pierce Spanish coats of mail. To most lads this will be a favourite volume, and may, at all events, be placed among play-books that afford a relief from the ordinary run of weak tales and diluted science with which young people nowadays are generally amply provided.

Tales, however, are in far wider request than any other kind of literature, and it is a matter for congratulation when we can recommend a good story occupying one moderate-sized volume, and carried on with genuine interest to the end. Such a story is "The Orville College Boys," by Mrs. Henry Wood, recounting the school history as well as the family relations of a group of lads, each of whom may be said to be a separate study. It would only spoil the interest of the story if we were to sketch the leading points of the plot; but we can cordially recommend the book, both to our young readers and to children of a larger growth, as one that they will not readily put down when they have gone as far even as the middle of the first chapter. One of the happy characteristics of Mrs. Henry Wood is the facility with which she describes places, and this is always a charm in a story written for boys of which boys are the heroes and where a college or a school is the scene of the greater part of the incidents. There are two or three writers who are admirable in their treatment of all that belongs to school life, especially to the more robust part of it, the football play, the cricket-field, and the river. Mrs. Wood does not deal much with this athletic side; indeed, the want of more than a mere allusion to it is, perhaps, a slight defect on the realistic side of her work; but the place, Orville College, and its accessories, and some other scenes in which the actors play their parts during the progress of the tale, are very vividly placed before the reader. It is probable, also, that certain cynically-disposed lads (and lads are sometimes so awfully cynical nowadays) may cavil at the rather too obvious moral, mental, and physical superiority of the hero of the book; still, they may wish that they could imitate his virtues and emulate his prowess. On the whole, too, it is safe to adhere to the old plan when we are professedly writing a story of school life, especially if it should happen, as in the present instance, that the circumstances of the plot will to some extent account for the character exhibited by the principal personages whose history is the occasion for Orville College being opened to public inspection.



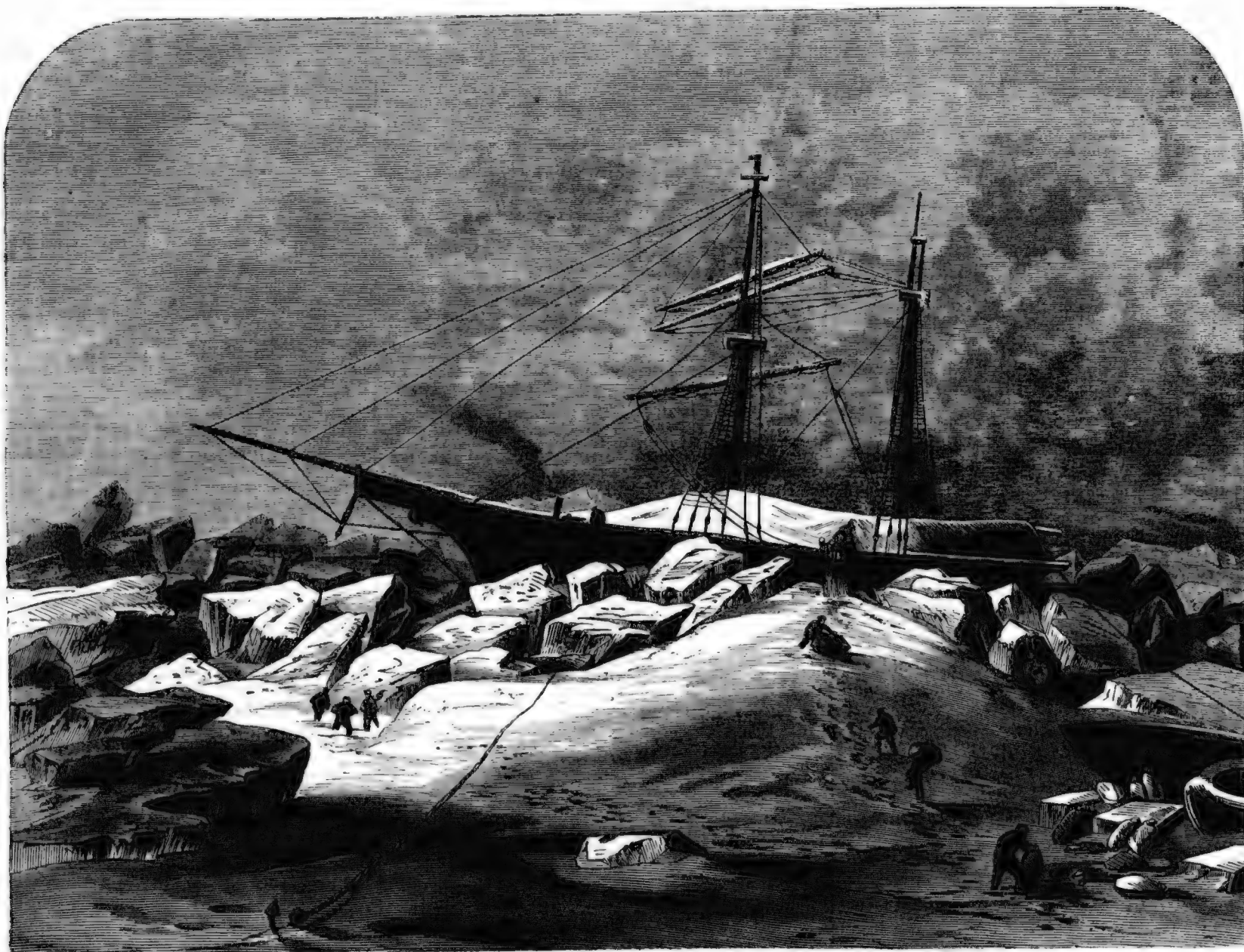
## WAR SKETCHES.

Among our War Sketches this week is another incident of the fighting near Villiers during the sortie of last month, of which we have already published some illustrations. Our present Engraving represents the moment when the Saxon sharpshooters advanced upon the most forward position the French had gained. Some of the latter, it will be seen, have lost heart, and are in the act of showing the "white feather" — flag, we mean—in token of surrender, and are about to make off, in spite of the remonstrances of their officers. This, it is alleged, has lately become a common occurrence in the course of the sorties. Officers are heard and seen to

be threatening, entreating, and encouraging their men to advance; but in vain; some of the latter fly, and of course the others follow. It is but fair to add, however, that this is not always the case, many gallant fellows continuing to fight on even when left almost unsupported, as some of those in that group of French on the right of the picture are doing. Were all the French soldiers as cool and determined as that sergeant, for instance, who is taking aim at the mounted Saxon officer, General Trochu might, perhaps, have been able to tell another tale of his several sorties than that of continual failure. But what will you have? Raw troops as most of the Paris garrison comparatively



SKETCHES NEAR METZ: BELLEVUE.



THE GERMAN NORTH POLE EXPEDITION: THE HANSA IN DANGER.

are, can hardly be expected to remain as steady under fire as veterans.

Another of our Engravings—that on page 56—shows that even non-combatants are not exempt from the dangers as well as the discomforts of war. The incident occurred during the battle at Le Mans, when Chanzy's army was defeated and obliged to evacuate the town; and the subject of it was "our own Artist." He had taken up his quarters in what he thought a tolerably secure place, and, tired to death with marching and watching, and relying upon the capacity of the French to hold the strong position they occupied, had gone to



SKETCHES NEAR METZ: SITE OF A PRUSSIAN BATTERY AT BELLEVUE.

bed with all his traps around him. His calculations were upset, however, and his slumbers rudely broken. The French gave way, the Germans advanced, throwing shells into the town to hasten the exodus of their opponents; and one of these stray messengers suddenly crashed into our friend's room, smashing roof, walls, windows, chairs, and everything in its way. A man may be cool enough in most emergencies, and have become, after a few months of campaigning, tolerably familiar with war's alarms; but such sudden and unpleasant wakening may well upset his philosophy, considerably unsettle his nerves, and "make each



particular hair to stand on end." Lucky was it for our artist that the unwelcome visitor took 'tother end of the room; and lucky for our readers, too, perhaps, or they might never have known aught of this little incident in the life of a "Correspondent at the Seat of War." We may perhaps as well add that Le Mans is the capital of the department of the Sarthe, and is situated near the river of that name, about fifty-one miles north-east of Angers. The streets in the new part of the town are airy and clean; but in the old town, they are irregular, confined, and dirty. The town has a fine square, called the Place des Halles, and a couple of pleasant public walks. Des Jacobins (a reminiscence of the first revolution) and Du Greffier. The public buildings are not of much note, the principal being the Cathedral of St. Julien, the prefect's hotel, the theological and communal colleges, the museum, the hospitals, theatre, &c. The population numbers about 27,000; and

it was here that the final struggle between the Vendéans and the Republican troops took place in 1793. The first of our Plantagenet Kings, Henry II., was born in Le Mans. From the environs of Metz we have several sketches showing the aspect of affairs after the siege; and a very sad aspect it is. St. Rémy, Bellevue, and Ladonchamps—villages lying to the north of Metz, towards Thionville—were the scene of that last desperate effort Bazaine made to break out, in October, which was graphically described at the time, as newspaper readers will remember, by the correspondent of the *Daily News*. At Ladonchamps it was that the Prussian Landwehr regiments "placed their backs against a wall of the chateau and refused to budge, preferring to be shot down where they stood rather than yield an inch of ground." To this persistence was the victory of the Germans due, and by it was the last hope of escape for the French destroyed.

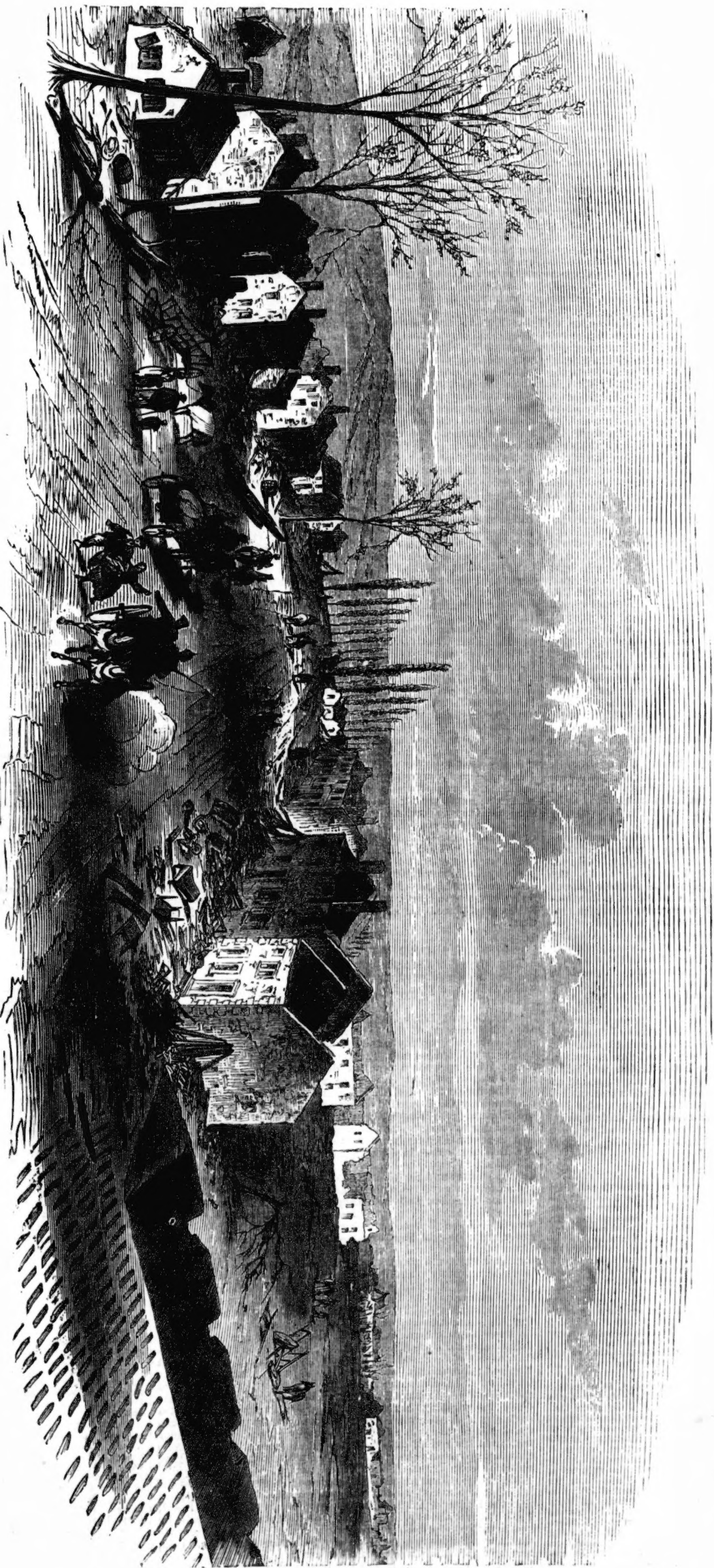
How desperate was the struggle is testified by the many graves with which the ground is dotted, and the shattered, ruined, and deserted condition of the houses. The pleasant chateau of Ladonchamps was almost entirely destroyed during the siege, both the French and German guns having played upon it; and the villages of Bellevue and St. Rémy, in which Prussian posts had been established, were reduced to the condition our Engravings show them in. The most painful scene of all, however, is that in the market-place of Metz, where some French soldiers who had not yet left the place forgot themselves so far as to pilder from the stalls. Hunger and defeat may make men very desperate; but even these facts, potent as they are, should not have led to the shameful scenes that distinguished the capitulations of Metz, Strasbourg, and other places. Terribly demoralised, indeed, must the French Imperial soldiers have

been when drunkenness and theft were ordinary characteristics of their conduct! On this miserable episode, however, we do not care to dwell, and so we gladly quit the theme.

#### THE GERMAN NORTH POLAR EXPEDITION.

THE HANSA IN DISTRESS.

THE tremendous events which have during the past year engaged the whole German nation have, not unnaturally, withdrawn some attention from what would otherwise have been an interesting public and even international question. Most of our readers will have heard that above a year ago a German North Polar Expedition was organised and equipped for a quest which has already led to the peril of many valuable lives and to the sacrifice of several heroic men. To those—and there are still



THE ENVIRONS OF METZ: ST. RÉMY.

many Englishmen among them—who are touched with the peculiar enthusiasm which no Arctic frost seems able to kill, there is something about northern exploration that is peculiarly fascinating. It is difficult to account for the fact, since to account for it would be to acknowledge a touch of the same enthusiasm, and enthusiasm is seldom coldly and logically accountable; but the fact remains nevertheless; and, though we have not at present engaged in any new efforts at discovery in the still fastnesses of the frozen seas, the German adventurers have been prosecuting their attempts. Our Engraving, which is from a drawing by Mr. Hildebrandt, an officer on board one of the vessels engaged in the expedition, will show to what straits that ship was reduced, and the awful danger that threatened her from the terrific force of the ice in which she became imbedded like a nautical toy set in gigantic crystals, or some strange fly congealed in colourless amber. It was at the end of October, 1869, that the *Hansa* was caught in the great ice-field, where the

crew and officers had to wait patiently the probabilities of escape; and, though we have now the opportunity of publishing this illustration of her danger, we are compelled to leave our readers to the account which will doubtless be shortly published detailing the history of the expedition in order that they may learn precisely how the difficulty was surmounted and the terrible ices and beds of ice escaped.

#### EXTRAORDINARY ESCAPE OF TWO MEN FROM A COAL-PIT.

THE Wheatley Hill Colliery became inundated on Thursday, the 19th inst., and the operation of pumping the water out of the shaft was commenced immediately. It was continued without cessation last Saturday, and at night the master sinker (John Kelsey) reported to Mr. Burn (the viewer) who had been constantly at the shaft from the time of the acci-

dent, that the depth of water had been reduced to 40 ft. At Thornley Colliery operations were also pressed vigorously forward for the stoppage of the leakers and the reduction of the water in the mine. About three o'clock in the afternoon, while the work was being proceeded with, some of the men thought they heard a cry and knocking from the direction of the Wheatley Hill workings. A few moments of breathless suspense followed, when what was only suspicion became certainty by the repetition of the signals, this time much nearer. The men in Thornley Colliery then that portion of the mine where the Thornley men were standing and that from which the poor fellows were evidently coming the water stood within six or eight inches from the roof, and, knowing the difficulty that must be felt by persons so reduced in bodily strength as those men must be after their incarceration, the Thornley men with Wm. Brown, deputy overman, as the leading man, joined hands

together, and plunged into the body of water in search of those poor fellows who seemed about to rise from their tombs. For a few minutes Brown waded in without encountering anything, until at last his disengaged hand encountered that of some one scrambling towards him, which he grasped, and gave the signal to those men behind him to retreat. In an instant two of the lost men in Wheatley Hill Colliery were dragged clear of the water and alive into Thornley pit. Alive, certainly, but in very low condition after their interment in the bowels of the earth for fifty-four hours. The survivors turned out to be Michael Ragan and John Smith. John Jackson, one of the workmen, had brought a set of dry clothes for any emergency, and Ragan was soon freed from his saturated attire, and clothed in dry things. Jackson changing clothes with Smith. Ragan appeared to have suffered considerably from the noxious vapours, and looked very wild about the eyes. He was able to walk to the carriage with slight assistance. Smith, although perfectly



aware of what was going on, was in a more exhausted state than his companion, and required to be carried from the pit heap to the carriage, when both men were conveyed home. From the subjoined narrative it will be seen that the death of three sufferers is placed beyond a doubt.

Although very much exhausted when rescued from the workings, Ragan and Smith rapidly recovered from the effects of their long incarceration, and on Sunday morning were enabled to leave their beds, and both partook heartily of their dinners. We append the narrative of the accident given by John Smith:—"I went below to start my first shift at nine o'clock on Thursday morning, Jan. 19, and went to work in the first hitch in the fore cross-cut. James Hall was working at the same place, and we were working back to back. About twelve o'clock I heard a rumbling noise like thunder, and, having called Hall's attention to it, we ran to the entrance of the board, past which we saw the water sweeping at least a yard deep. A piece of timber hit me upon the legs and knocked me down, and I was carried away about twenty yards before I could recover myself. I caught at the coal several times before I got to my feet, and, having recovered myself, I called to Hall, who had moved a little way up the hitch, and, after a rambling about thirty yards, I joined him. Our lamps had both gone out, and I knew nothing of the workings. Hall led the way, and we scrambled up the cross-cut towards the Thornley workings. We got to the board in which Ragan was working (250 yards from the shaft). Ragan had given himself up for lost, and had got into one of the tubs there to await his fate. Hall called upon him to make an effort to save his life, and he came out of his board and joined us. Hall drew my attention to the boy Cooper, who was lying in Ragan's board, and who was then quite dead, having apparently been drowned. Hall led the way, and we scrambled through the rushing water up the incline, still in the direction of the Thornley workings, through which Hall hoped we might escape. A short distance further on we came to the tub which was upset by the boy Michael Darby in his flight, and which completely blocked up the way. On the other side of it we heard John Bell, who in his flight from his board (400 yards from the shaft) had been prevented from descending the drift by the tub. We managed to shift it to one side, and Bell then led the way, followed by Hall, Ragan, and myself, towards the Thornley workings. The water in the cross-cut had up to this time been as high as our hips, but as we proceeded up the incline the depth increased, rose to our necks, and at last was level with the roof. We made several attempts to get at the Thornley workings, which Bell said were close by, but we failed each time. On one occasion Bell plunged into the water, and after going some distance almost submerged he found a hole in the roof, and shouted to us to come, as there was a chance of escape. Hall and I plunged in, Ragan remaining behind; but after reaching Bell we found that there was no chance of escape that way, and with some difficulty we reached Ragan again. We then tried other places in order to obtain a place of refuge, and we at length found a caunch (i.e., a shelf) in the side coal formed by Ragan about a fortnight ago, which was just above the level of the water. On to this we lifted a piece of brattice for a seat, then took our places, Hall and Bell being between me and Ragan. I felt sure from the first I should be saved; and, finding that the others were inclined to sleep, I called to them from time to time to keep them awake. I succeeded in doing so until what I think would be Saturday morning, when, overcome by my exertions, I dozed off to sleep. How long I was in that condition I do not know; but on awaking I found my cheek against Bell's, which was cold; and on feeling his mouth and nose I could not detect the slightest sign that he was breathing. I reached out my arm and found Hall, who also appeared to be dead. I called to Ragan, but had to shout three or four times before he answered me. When he did speak he did not appear to be in his senses. He appeared to think that I was the onsetter attending at the bottom of the shaft, and he asked me to 'rap him up'—i.e., send the cage to bank. He again said, 'Tell that rapper to rap away. It is a queer thing, the pit's been drawing coals all day, and two men cannot be sent to bank.' I began to feel a little frightened of Ragan, more particularly as he began to threaten violence to the onsetter, whom he evidently took me to be, so I made no reply to his remarks. He was silent for a considerable time, during which he recovered his consciousness, for he then asked if the other two men, (meaning Bell and Hall) had gone away from us. I said they were lying beside us. He asked what they called me, and I replied, 'Smith, the stranger;' and he then said he thought I was the onsetter. About half an hour after we had this conversation sounds of men working, which I had thought I had heard previously, became a certainty, for I heard a noise as of a man knocking a prop up apparently about fifty yards off in the direction of Thornley Colliery workings. I called out as loudly as I could, but I was apparently not heard; but on shouting a second time those in the workings 'jowed,' and we were directed to go through the water into which we had previously plunged. Ragan went in front and plunged in, and I caught hold of his trousers and followed as well as I could. The water had been reduced by about six or eight inches from the roof since we were in it before. We pressed forward, getting deeper in the water at every step. Sometimes I thought I had lost my hold on my companion's clothing, sometimes I felt my feet leave the floor and threaten to stretch me below the water. We staggered forward, and presently I felt Ragan was being pulled forcibly forward; so I held on with all my might, and in an instant we were dragged clear of the great body of water, and I stood with my companion amidst the body of workmen who had rescued us, and who, with tears streaming down their cheeks, seemed overcome with the joy they felt at seeing us standing there alive and well. We were speedily put into warm clothing, brought to bank, and dispatched to our homes."

**MR. GLADSTONE AND THE POPE.**—Some correspondence is published which has taken place between Mr. Gladstone, on the one hand, and the Hon. A. Kinnaird and Mr. Thomas Chambers, M.P., on the other, relative to the Premier's note about the Pope's independence. Subsequently, Mr. Kinnaird had some conversation with the Minister on the subject, which was succeeded by the following letter, in which Mr. Kinnaird inquires whether he has rightly gathered Mr. Gladstone's meaning:—"My dear Gladstone,—With reference to our interviews about your letter to Mr. Denae, am I right in distinctly understanding from you that the expressions used by you were in no wise intended to pledge the Government to do anything to mix itself up in any manner with the Pope's spiritual power, but were merely designed to express their readiness, should any restraint be placed upon his person and personal acts by the civil power, contrary to the principles of complete civil and religious liberty, to represent this personal grievance to the Italian Government, especially bearing in mind that so many millions of British subjects are interested in him through their religious connection with him?" To this Mr. Gladstone replied as follows:—"My dear Kinnaird,—You have quite accurately understood those expressions in my letter to Mr. Denae to which you refer."

**A RESTORATION PROJECT.**—The *Times* of Wednesday, in a leading article, makes the following statement:—"Paris is fallen; the proud city has become captive. What follows? The claim of M. Jules Favre that the garrison of Paris should be allowed to march out with the honours of war has been, of course, rejected; and we may go farther, and say with confidence that, so far from granting such terms, Count Bismarck is at this moment seeking to obtain from M. Favre something more than a surrender of the capital of France. His last note to M. Favre indicated the stipulations he is now endeavouring to enforce. He is telling him that he is something more than the chief of the Administration in Paris—he is the leading spirit of the Government under which the defence of France is prosecuted; that M. Favre must surrender not in the name of Paris only, but on behalf of France, and must use his influence to induce the Delegate Government outside Paris to accept the surrender. M. Favre will, of course, refuse, protesting that he and his colleagues in Paris, having failed in defending the city, have no more authority to bind France than the commandant at Belfort or at Longwy; but Count Bismarck will thereupon produce another weapon from his armoury. He will tell M. Favre that he has obtained from the exiled Emperor, with the full consent of the captive of Wilhelmshöhe, a complete acceptance of his terms; and that M. Favre and his associates have no choice but to yield and save the chance of maintaining a Republican organisation, or refuse and admit an Imperialist restoration. If M. Favre still refuses, Count Bismarck must in the end give way. A capitulation of Paris absolutely unconditional must soon close their negotiations."

## MUSIC.

SIGNOR BOTTESINI'S "Ali Baba" appears to be running a successful course at the Lyceum; and we are not surprised to learn that it increases in favour the oftener it is heard. This is characteristic of all good music; and that the music of "Ali Baba" is good nobody can doubt who looks at it with intelligence and care. The performers have now grown familiar with their work, and an excellent ensemble is the result; while those who prefer to admire individual talent can find ample employment in watching the Ali Baba of Signor Borella, one of the best examples of operatic comedy that we have known since Signor Ronconi made the town laugh. On Tuesday the "Crispino e la Comare" of the brothers Ricci was produced, with Mdlle. Colombo as Annetta, and Signor Ristori as the Cobbler. The opera itself, apart from the famous trio for male voices in the third act, is of small worth; and can only be made endurable by some such talent as that which recommended it at Covent Garden six years ago. This advantage the Lyceum performance did not possess; and the result was both flat and unprofitable, save when the trio woke the audience up and elicited a vigorous encore. Mdlle. Colombo made very little of her part, and her singing was by no means perfect. Signor Ristori again showed himself animated by the best intentions; but his humour is of the cut-and-dry sort, which gets no laughter out of the public. The other and subordinate parts were fairly sustained by Signori Fabbri, Torelli, Rocca, and Mdlle. Faullo.

The Crystal Palace Concerts were resumed on Saturday last, an excellent programme being announced for the occasion. The symphony was the splendid fragments in B minor of Schubert—an ever welcome treat—and the not less splendid overtures to "Guillaume Tell" and "Medea" also had a place. Madame Néruda played, in her own graceful style, the violin concerto of Mendelssohn; and Herr Stockhausen, as well as Mdlle. Corani, contributed some acceptable vocal pieces. Altogether, the concert was a good beginning of the second half of the series.

At the Monday Popular Concert of this week a large audience was delighted with Schubert's beautiful quartet in A minor—one of the greatest of St. James's Hall favourites. The charm of this work lies in its unceasing melody, and the tender grace which pervades every moment. These things require no special training for their appreciation, hence the universal regard shown to the quartet—a regard strong enough to draw an audience almost by its own strength. Beethoven's pianoforte trio in C minor was another feature; and this, too, is a popular work, mainly because of an andante, with variations, distinguished by all the obvious graces of Beethoven's early style. The artists concerned in its execution—Miss Zimmermann, Madame Néruda, and Signor Piatti—left nothing to desire; and the enjoyment of the audience was expressed in the most decided way. As solo pieces, Miss Zimmermann played with remarkable facility Mendelssohn's fantasia in F sharp minor; and Signor Piatti astonished all present by his wonderful execution of some selections from Bach's sixth violoncello suite. Herr Stockhausen was the vocalist.

The Ballad Concert at St. James's Hall, on Wednesday evening (fourth of the series), attracted an audience which filled every seat in the hall. An apology was made for Madame Patey, who was prevented by indisposition from appearing. Madame Sherrington sang "Birds in the night" (Sullivan), and a new song of her own, "Bewitched," which was very favourably received. Miss Wynne's songs were "Will he come" (Sullivan), "The faded violet" (Plumtree), and "Deep in a forest dell" (Barnett). She also gave, in the absence of Madame Patey, "The Ballad of the Daughter of Islington," which elicited loud demands for an encore. Miss Elton was very successful in "Jockey to the Fair." Mr. Reeves contributed a charming new song, by F. Clay, "I'm in love" (encored); he also gave "Come into the garden, Maud," and "Tom Bowlin," both being vociferously re-demanded, and a portion of the latter repeated. Mr. Santley was not less successful in "The Stirrup Cup" (Arditi), "A life that lives for you" (Sullivan), and "The Vagabond" (Molloy)—good-naturedly complying with the demands of the audience by repeating a portion of each. Mr. Fielding's gleefully did good service; and Mr. Thorpe received a well-merited encore in the solo for flute, "Robin Adair" (Drouet). Miss Kate Roberts was the pianist, and played—to the evident satisfaction of the audience—"L'Elisir d'Amore" (Thalberg), "Bourre" (Bach), and "Handel's Hornpipe."

The prospectuses of the Oratorio Concerts and of those to be given by Mr. Henry Leslie have been issued, and are full of promise of interesting things. Mr. Henry Holmes has also announced a series of six chamber concerts, wherein modern novelties are to hold a good place. Of all these matters more will be said in due time.

## MENDELSSOHN AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

The original of the following interesting letter by Mendelssohn has just been published by his son in a German periodical. It will naturally be peculiarly interesting to English readers:—

Frankfort, July 19, 1842.

"My Dearest Little Mother,—I must tell you a little more about London and of the days after our trip to Manchester. I could not make up my mind to go to Dublin because of the twelve hours' sea journey, the thought of which crushed all my ideas. We spent two peaceful days in Manchester with the uncles and aunts, but as soon as we got back to London the whirl began again. I shall tell you all about it verbally—how disgracefully Cécile carried on with Sir Edward Bulwer, and how old Rogers (Sam Rogers, you know) squeezed her hand and begged her to bring up her children to be as charming as herself, and to speak English as well (this made a sensation), and how Mr. Roebuck came in (ask Dirichlet who he is), and how we played charades at the Benckes', and Klingemann acted a West Indian planter and Sir Walter Scott, and how the directors of the Philharmonic gave me a fish dinner at Greenwich, with white-bait and speeches, and how they sang my 'Antigone' music at the Moscheles' (I must imitate that on the piano for your benefit—I see Rebecca laughing already; but why does she never write?)—and how I waited for Herr von Massow at the Brunswick Hotel, and spoke to Herr Abeken at the Bunsens', and how we had a great dinner at the Bunsens'—all this I shall describe minutely when I see you; but I must at once tell you all the details of my last visit at Buckingham Palace. I know how it will amuse you, dear mother, and me too.

"It is, as G. says, the one really pleasant and thoroughly comfortable English house, where one feels a *son aise*. Of course I do know a few others, but yet on the whole I agree with him. Joking apart, Prince Albert had asked me to go to him on Saturday, at two o'clock, so that I might try his organ before I left England; I found him alone, and as we were talking away, the Queen came in, also alone, in a simple morning dress. She said she was obliged to leave for Claremont in an hour, and then suddenly interrupting herself, exclaimed, 'But goodness, what a confusion!' for the wind had littered the whole room, and even the pedals of the organ (which, by-the-way, made a very pretty feature in the room), with leaves of music from a large portfolio that lay open. As she spoke she knelt down and began picking up the music; Prince Albert helped, and I, too, was not idle. Then Prince Albert proceeded to explain the stops to me, and she said that she would meanwhile put things straight. I begged that the Prince would first play me something, so that, as I said, I might boast about it in Germany; and he played a Chorale, by heart, with the pedals, so charmingly, and clearly, and correctly that it would have done credit to any professional, and the Queen, having finished her work, came and sat by him and listened, and looked pleased. Then it was my turn, and I began my chorus from 'St. Paul.'—How lovely are the messengers.' Before I got to the end of the first verse they both joined in the chorus, and all the time Prince Albert managed the stops for me so cleverly—first a flute, at the forte the great organ, at the D major part the whole, then he made a lovely diminuendo with the stops, and so on to the end of

the piece, and all by heart—that I was really quite enchanted. Then the young Prince of Gotha came in, and there was more chatting; and the Queen asked if I had written any new songs, and said she was very fond of singing my published ones. 'You should sing one to him,' said Prince Albert; and, after a little begging, she said she would try the 'Frühlingslied' in B flat—'if it is still here,' she added, 'for all my music is packed up for Claremont.' Prince Albert went to look for it, but came back, saying it was already packed. 'But one might perhaps unpack it,' said I. 'We must send for Lady —,' she said. (I did not catch the name.) So the bell was rung, and the servants were sent after it, but without success; and at last the Queen went herself, and while she was gone Prince Albert said to me, 'She begs you will accept this present as a remembrance,' and gave me a little case with a beautiful ring, on which is engraved 'V. R., 1842.' Then the Queen came back and said, 'Lady — is gone, and has taken all my things with her. It really is most annoying.' (You can't think how that amused me.) I then begged that I might not be made to suffer for the accident, and hoped she would sing another song. After some consultation with her husband he said, 'She will sing you something of Glück's.' Meantime the Princess of Gotha had come in, and we five proceeded through various corridors and rooms to the Queen's sitting-room, where there was a gigantic rocking-horse standing near the sofa, and two big bird-cages, and pictures on the walls, and splendidly-bound books on the table, and music on the piano. The Duchess of Kent came in too, and while they were all talking I rummaged about amongst the music, and soon discovered my first set of songs. So, of course, I begged her rather to sing one of those than the Glück, to which she very kindly consented; and which did she choose?—'Schöner und schöner schmeckt sich!' sang it quite charmingly, in strict time and tune, and with very good execution. Only in the line 'Der Prosa Lasten und Müh,' where it goes down to D, and then comes up again chromatically, she sang D sharp each time, and as I gave her the note both times, the last time she sang D, and there it ought to have been D sharp. But, with the exception of this little mistake, it was really charming, and the last long G I have never heard better, or purer, or more natural from any amateur. Then I was obliged to confess that Fanny had written the song (which I found very hard, but pride must have a fall) and beg her to sing one of my own also. If I would give her plenty of help she would gladly try, she said, and then she sang the Pilgerspruch 'Lass dich nur,' really quite faultlessly, and with charming feeling and expression. I thought to myself, one must not pay too many compliments on such an occasion, so I merely thanked her a great many times; upon which she said, 'Oh! if only I had not been so frightened; generally, I have such long breath.' Then I praised her heartily and with the best conscience in the world; for just that part with the long G at the close she had done so well, taking the three following and connecting notes in the same breath, as one seldom hears it done, and therefore it amused me doubly that she herself should have begun about it. After this Prince Albert sang the Ernte-Lied, 'Es ist ein Schnitter;' and then he said I must play him something before I went, and gave me as themes the chorale which he had played on the organ and the song he had just sung. If everything had gone as usual, I ought to have improvised most dreadfully badly; for it is almost always like that with me when I want it to go well, and then I should have gone away vexed with the whole morning. But, just as if I was to keep nothing but the pleasantest, most charming recollection of it, I never improvised better; I was in the best mood for it, and played a long time, and enjoyed it myself so that, besides the two themes, I brought in the songs that the Queen had sung, naturally enough; and it all went off so easily that I would gladly not have stopped; and they followed me with so much intelligence and attention that I felt more at my ease than I ever did in improvising to an audience. She said several times she hoped I would soon come to England again and pay them a visit, and then I took leave, and down below I saw the beautiful carriages waiting, with their scarlet outriders, and in a quarter of an hour the flag was lowered, and the *Court Circular* announced, 'Her Majesty left the palace at twenty minutes past three;' and I went off in the rain to the Klingemanns, and had the double pleasure of pouring out all my news to them and to Cécile.

"I must add that I begged the Queen to allow me to dedicate my A minor symphony to her, as that had really been the inducement to my journey, and because the English name on the Scotch piece would look doubly well. Also, I forgot to tell you how, just as she was going to begin to sing, she said, 'But the parrot must go out first, or he will screech louder than I shall sing.' Upon which Prince Albert rang the bell, and the Prince of Gotha said he would carry it out; and I said, 'Allow me,' and carried the great cage out, to the astonishment of the servants. There is plenty more to say, when we meet; but if Dirichlet goes and thinks me a little aristocrat because of these long details, I swear I am more Radical than ever, and call to witness Grote, Roebuck, and you, my dear little mother, who will be as much amused by all these details as I am myself."

**THE PRINCE DE JOINVILLE.**—Some particulars of the arrest and expulsion of the Prince de Joinville have been published. The Prince went to France for the purpose of offering his services to General d'Aurelle des Paladins, but the latter dared not accept them without the consent of the Tours Government. The Prince remained with the army as a spectator, witnessed the French defeat before Orleans, and then repaired to the camp of Conlie, where he offered his services to General Chanzy, but received the same answer. He stayed about a week in the camp, but one morning eighteen police officials from Bordeaux arrived, arrested him, and took him to that town. He was there interrogated, and was then kept six days in secret confinement. M. Thiers intervened, and induced M. Gambetta to liberate him. He was then escorted by two gendarmes to St. Malo, and shipped to England. The Prince is reported to have remarked, "I did not expect such treatment from M. Gambetta. I remember the time, and it is not very long ago, when he dined with us at Claremont. How often alters manners! Tell him that I shall expect him soon in England."

**THE LATE SIR GEORGE HAYTER, K.S.L.**—The death was announced last Saturday of a gentleman once at least well known in artistic and literary circles, though, to some extent, he had outlived his reputation—we mean that of Sir George Hayter, principal painter in ordinary to her Majesty, who has died at his residence in Marylebone-road, at the age of seventy-eight. Sir George, who was a son of Mr. Charles Hayter, formerly a well known painter and professor of drawing and perspective to her Royal Highness the Princess (Charlotte) of Wales, was born in London in the year 1792, and more than fifty years ago was appointed painter of miniatures and King of the Belgians. In 1818 he was elected a member of the Academy of St. Luke, at Rome, and subsequently a member of the Academies of Parma, Bologna, Florence, and Venice. On the accession of her Majesty he was appointed portrait and historical painter to the Queen, and in 1841 "principal painter" to the Queen, from whom he received the honour of knighthood in the following year. Already—some years previously—he had been made a Knight of the Persian Order of the Lion and the Sun. Sir George was three times married, and was left a widower for the third time in the year 1867.

**A PUNCTILIOUS VOLUNTEER.**—The volunteers, if they have no sense of what is due to discipline, and decline to obey the regulation forbidding them to join public processions without leave from head-quarters, seem to have, at all events, a very keen sense of the necessity of discipline as regards the regular Army, if we may judge by the case of Sergeant Dirkan, of the Royal Marines, who has just been tried by a court-martial in consequence of a complaint made by Captain Whitlock, Adjutant of the 8th Administrative Battalion Lancashire Rifle Volunteers, that the sergeant, who belonged to a recruiting party at Manchester, had, on Nov. 26, passed him (Captain Whitlock) in the streets of Blackburn without saluting him. It seems that when, after this terrible offence had been committed in broad daylight, Captain Whitlock met Sergeant Dirkan at the railway station and taxed him with his commission, the miserable man replied that "he neither saw nor knew" Captain Whitlock, and begged his pardon for having unintentionally omitted to salute him. This, however, did not satisfy that gallant officer, who wrote to the Commandant of Marines on the subject, the result being the trial by court-martial of Sergeant Dirkan. The sergeant has been acquitted; and really, taking into consideration that the day of the lamentable occurrence is stated to have been "very gloomy" and that the uniform of volunteers is so designed that they are supposed to be invisible at a short distance, it is quite possible Sergeant Dirkan failed to observe Captain Whitlock.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.



## ALLEGED FRAUDS BY STEWARDS IN THE NAVY.

COURTS-MARTIAL on certain stewards of the Royal Navy, who are charged with a series of frauds on the Admiralty, commenced on board the Duke of Wellington, at Portsmouth, on Tuesday. There are seven stewards for trial, whose cases will be taken separately. The first case is that of Samuel Vine, steward of the Boscawen, against whom there are six charges—viz., of having, on Oct. 1, 4, 7, 17, and 25, represented to Henry W. Arlidge, paymaster of the Boscawen, that certain quantities of fresh meat had been received on board, well knowing that smaller quantities only had been received; and also with having, on several other occasions, conspired, with one James Curtis, to defraud the Queen of large sums of money. The court was composed of the following officers:—Vice-Admiral G. G. Wellesley, Commander-in-Chief of the Channel Squadron, president; Captain G. Hancock (of the Duke of Wellington), Captain E. Rice (of the Asia), Captain J. L. Parry (of the Orontes), Captain H. H. Beamish (of the Agincourt), Captain R. Wells (of the Minotaur), Captain G. F. Blake (of the Royal Marines), barrister-at-law, officiating as Judge-Advocate. Mr. G. P. Martin, Paymaster of the Victoria and Albert, and Mr. Eastlake, of Plymouth, prosecuted; and Mr. Bullen, of the Western Circuit, appeared as the prisoner's "friend." The suggestion of the prosecution apparently is, that the prisoner entered into a conspiracy with an agent of the contractor for the supply of fresh beef to the ships at Portland, by which he was to show on the books that quantities considerably beyond those actually brought on board had been received, and that for this he was to have 6d. a pound on the excess. The prisoner apparently attempts to show that the beef charged was actually received, and that the sum due to boys on leave was to be paid to their savings fund. It was proved by medical evidence that Mr. Curtis was suffering from epilepsy, and could not attend the court.

Mr. Arlidge, the paymaster of the Boscawen, was examined at great length. He proved that the custom on entering a port at which there was a contractor was to present a formal demand, signed by the captain, for beef for the crew. After the first supply, the contractor was informed by the ship's steward of the quantities required for daily use. The ship's steward, on the receipt of supplies, furnished the paymaster with the quantities, and the receipts were signed by the paymaster; but they were not supplied to the contractor again, as he did not come on board for them. Witness did not know that the quantities which came on board were the same as what were signed for. A list was furnished of the men and boys going on leave to the paymaster's office by the master-at-arms or the sergeant of marines; the assistant paymaster sent a check-note to the steward, and the provisions were stopped. The assistant paymaster was then supposed to make an entry in the books. If men and boys were absent on leave for forty-eight hours, or less, the provisions were issued to the messes, and what was paid for as savings was paid to the messes at the end of the quarter. Witness was not aware that if men were absent more than forty-eight hours they were not checked, but he presumed their provisions would be issued on the messes, as he had already explained. An Admiralty order, dated Sept. 29, 1870, was issued, authorising payment for savings of fresh beef to boys, and the prisoner had told him that it would make a great difference to the boys' fund. On the Admiralty solicitor going on board to make inquiries with reference to this case, the prisoner handed in a book, which he said was his explanation. The witness was examined at considerable length as to the manner in which the statement was obtained; but, as there was evidence that it was given perfectly voluntarily, it was read. In it the prisoner admitted that Mr. Curtis and Mr. Brown had come on board, and had told him if he had any surplus meat they would be glad to buy it at 6d. per lb., stating that this would be a good way of augmenting the boys' fund. He added that he was to be paid for this surplus meat at the end of the year, and it was his intention to hand the money either to the Commander or the Paymaster. He also said he had made this statement to several officers, and had added that they would be astonished at the amount due to the boys' fund at the end of the year. The prisoner added that he had actually received no money at all.

In cross-examination, the witness said he did not superintend the weighing of the meat, and he depended on the steward for the accuracy of the accounts with reference to the quantities. There had sometimes been mistakes in delivery, meat intended for other ships being received on board the Boscawen. The ship had a tender, the Racer, and, although the accounts were kept separate, the receipts for the meat on board the tender were given on board the Boscawen. The commander had given him £6 to be placed to the credit of the boys' fund, which he did. In those cases he considered the contractor must have had receipts for larger quantities than were received. It had been usual before he joined the ship for the contractor to supply rice, pearl barley, and articles of a similar character, in lieu of a less quantity of vegetables, of an inferior quality; and that pearl-barley had been put into the boilers as a substitute. He told the contractor he should have nothing to do with such an arrangement. The prisoner had told him that he had received £193 on behalf of the boys' fund.

Joseph Woods, foreman to the contractor, was examined, with the view of showing that the supplies of beef on the days mentioned in the charge were less than those alleged by the prisoner.

James Curtis, cattle dealer, and brother and agent for the contractor, gave very important evidence. He described the manner in which the ships were supplied at Portland under the contract, and said a comparison had been made between the monthly vouchers from the ships and the book of the contractor, and the quantities on the former exceeded those in the book. The difference arose from the fact that witness paid Mr. Vine (the prisoner) for surplus meat at the rate of 50s. per 100 lb. By surplus meat he meant the quantity on the vouchers which exceeded that in the book. In December the prisoner saw him at his office in Portsmouth, when he paid the prisoner for the surplus meat for four months, the prisoner having gone there for the money, bringing the books

and stating that he was going to London. He had previously received letters on the subject of the surplus beef, in which he said the weights were less than witness's man made them. For the surplus meat for the four months (July, August, September, and October), witness paid £193 4s. 6d., by cheque, payable to Mr. Rice, the prisoner's father-in-law, and delivered to the prisoner. The cheque was made payable to Mr. Rice, because witness did not wish it to pass into his bank that morning. The prisoner presented vouchers for the surplus meat in November, but witness said he should send them to the Admiralty, and then pay. The Admiralty had only paid witness for November at the rate of 57s. 5d. per 100 lb., nor had payment been made for the full amount in December. All that was justly due for beef supplied in November was paid.

The Prisoner: Did you not yourself receive more money from the Admiralty than the value of the beef delivered?

Witness: Yes.

The Prisoner: And after deducting what you had paid me, how much?

Witness: Seven shillings and fivepence per 100 lb. I can't say the amount in pounds. It did not amount to a great deal.

In re-examination the witness said he thought surplus meat was meant saved by the prisoner on board the ship, and that he put other things instead of the beef.

In reply to the Court, the witness said the prisoner received 50s. per 100 lb. of the money received from the Admiralty for surplus beef, and witness himself received 7s. 5d.

The inquiry was adjourned.

## TRUCK REVELATIONS FROM SCOTLAND.

EVIDENCE relative to "truck" dealings in Shetland was taken in Edinburgh, on Monday. Mr. George Smith, clerk of supply at Lerwick, narrated the occupations and remuneration of the islanders, and attributed the high rate of pauperism among them to the system of barter. Mr. John Walker, a farmer and factor, gave an extraordinary account of the wholesale "trucking" which prevails in the hosiery and fishing industries. In the course of his evidence he said:—"I have been in Shetland eleven years permanently. Whaling, knitting, and fishing are partly a family, partly a national system. If you take the hosiery you take the female, if the fishing the senior male, and the younger males engage in the whale-fishing. Hosiery is divided into town and country; 14,000 will represent the knitters of Lerwick and Scalloway, but not the whole of the knitters. In the town merchants give out worsted to be worked at certain fixed rates. A nominal sum in cash is stated as the value of the articles, but it is an understood thing that the women get no cash for their work. They are paid in fancy goods, and it is not their own option to take these articles. A case in point occurred the other week. A girl traded with a certain merchant, and as she did not require any fancy goods he gave her an I O U for the money. Some of her friends wanted a certain article made, and she went to the merchant to get the worsted; but as soon as she produced the I O U to pay for it he plainly told her he would not give it her, and she was obliged to borrow money to get the worsted. The I O U is not cashed yet. This has been the custom ever since I went to Shetland, and I believe, since the days of Adam. This hosiery trade is such a profitable one that everyone tries to do a little in it; but there are only six or seven purchasers. The worsted of a shawl selling at about 30s. is worth from two to three shillings. The merchant nominally gives the worker 9s. for working it, and this in goods will be about 4s. Actually, the merchant gets from 25s. to 26s. for the shawl. The goods, too, I consider second-rate. The knitter from the country brings her goods to the merchant in town; but, instead of getting money, she will get goods in return. The merchant first puts a price upon the article, and then asks what she will take in exchange. In this, I think, there is compulsion; because, if a party surreptitiously takes anything past the proprietor's shop, he will be walked off his ground. No child gets to church until it gets credit for the clothes in which it goes to church; and the great object, therefore, of a boy or a girl is to get an account opened, and the consequence is that whenever this occurs the family circle is broken up. There is no real head in any house in Shetland. The success of the merchant there consists in being able to accumulate such an amount of bad debts about him as will 'thirl' the whole of the families in his neighbourhood, and then he succeeds. The man has an account, the women have accounts, and every child above twelve years has an account; but the merchant never gives them a copy of that account. In regard to fishing, there are the spring fishing and the winter fishing, in certain districts; but the grand staple is the ling-fishing, which commences in May and ends in August. The crews for the boats are hired in December or January, and at the same time boys are engaged as beach boys. The boy is allowed to draw his coat to go to church with; and by the time the fishing is over the boy has overdrawn his account, and is thirled to be engaged for the next season, and he is thus thirled or trucked away until he is thirled into the grave, unless he manages to get south. When the men go to the fishing the merchant provides the boat, and the men pay from £2 to £3 till the boat is paid. This money is debited in their account. They start to fish without any previous arrangement as to price, and it is only after the merchant finds a market and knows what price the fish will realise that he fixes the price to the fisherman. The men being yearly tenants, the merchant has a hold upon them. A fair average of a man's earnings during the three months would be £15. It is a case of 'heads I win and tails you lose' with the merchant, for he never fixes anything till he clears his feet. The men and women have income from various sources. I estimate the amount of money that will go into a Shetland house from the earnings of the man and woman at £60 or £70; but if a man get £1 or £2 it is an extraordinary thing. There is no confidence between the proprietor and tenant. There is no free trade in Shetland, and monopoly is the great bane of the country. The poor rates in Unst during the past three years were 7s., 4s. 6d., and 3s. in the pound; in North Yell, 4s., 3s. 6d., and 3s.; in

New South Yell, 5s., 4s. 6d., and 3s.; in Delting, 4s. 6d., 4s. 6d., and 4s.; in Scalloway, 10s. 6d., 5s., and 3s. 6d.; in Lerwick, 3s. 6d. for the three years; and in Brasse, 2s. 6d. for the same time. There is no poorhouse. The relief is all outdoor." Mr. Edmondstone, proprietor, Island of Unst, corroborated the evidence of Mr. Walker, stating that in the main it was a fair picture of the state of affairs in the Shetland Islands.

## CONFESSIONS OF A SCOUNDREL.

MESSRS. SHAEN AND ROSCOE, solicitors, publish the following statement in the *Daily News*:—

Sir,—We hoped that our letter to you of Nov. 30 last would have had the effect of stopping the operations of the person who calls himself sometimes "Charles Edmondson, of Blackheath," sometimes "T. D. Roundell, of York," and sometimes "C. J. Saville, of Boston Spa, Yorkshire." We regret, however, to say that he is still pursuing his career, and with a certain amount of success. We have, therefore, to beg that you will allow us to make a further contribution to his exposure. The circular upon which he is at present trading is headed "Fund for the Benefit of Mrs. Gordon, Widow of the late G. W. Gordon, of Jamaica;" then follows an alleged committee, with Sir Charles Dilke as chairman, and many well-known names, including Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Charles Buxton, Mr. George Dixon, Professor Fawcett, Mr. Edward Miall, Mr. John Stuart Mill, Mr. Samuel Morley, Mr. T. B. Potter, and Mr. Charles Saville Roundell, as members; with Mr. P. A. Taylor as treasurer, and Mr. William Morgan as honorary secretary; then comes his own name, under one of his aliases, as "assistant secretary and collector." The list is followed by a well-written circular, which is sent to his selected victims, and concludes with an intimation that he will have the pleasure of waiting upon them with a subscription list, to the whole being affixed the name of our friend Mr. Morgan, of Birmingham. Immediately after our former letter we received by post a communication, of which the following is a copy:—

"London, Nov. 30, 1870.

"Messrs. Shaen and Roscoe.—Gentlemen,—With reference to your letter in the *Times* of this morning, allow me, as the person 'wanted,' to inform you that you need not put yourselves to any further trouble. It will be quite useless. You may send letters to the London and provincial daily newspapers (most of which, of Liberal politics, and weeklies too, including the *Manchester Examiner* and *Guardian*, *Leeds Mercury*, *Birmingham Post*, *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, and others, are delivered at my residence immediately after publication), but the only effect of it is to put me on my guard, and warn me that is time I changed the 'alias' and the subject. You may give whatever information you like to the detectives; it will be useless. They are wooden-heads, and never succeed in detecting anybody, unless they can meet with a confederate to

'split' upon his 'mate,' and I have no 'confederate.' I was once in danger from 'information' thus 'received,' but, being able to anoint the itching palms of the detective 'active and intelligent officer!'—with some golden salve, I escaped. In this particular instance (of Mrs. Gordon's circular), I unguardedly, having taken too much champagne when giving the order, gave the printer my proper address, that he might send the proof by post; but, recollecting this, I changed my lodgings without delay. So even should the printers (a most respectable firm) see your or Mr. Chesson's letter, and send you my address as they have it, the information will be useless. And now, gentlemen, in conclusion, do not suppose from the tone of this letter that 'I glory in my shame.' Far from it. I loathe and detest myself. But having, while in a respectable position, lost fortune and character by folly and extravagance, I have been led into doing things which, had I been charged with at one time, I should have indignantly answered, 'Is thy servant a dog, that he should do this?' But I have not injured the funds of any society much; for though I have received an enormous sum of money, it was got because a personal appeal was made, and but a very small percentage would have been sent in answer to any advertisement or circular, without a personal request. If you wish for any communication with me, advertise in *Times* to the initials of my assumed cognomen.

T. D. ROUNDSELL.

"Excuse this hurried note. I have not time to-day to re-write it."

In the first place we merely put it on one side, but as we have reason to know the former exposure was not entirely successful, we trust you will give it a place in your columns.

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 20.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—M. ROBBIN, Haverford-west, licensed victualler.  
BANKRUPT.—H. E. BIRD and E. LEWIS, Basinghall-street, public accountants.—C. D. FAIRBROTHER, Lyndhurst-road, Peckham, gentileman.—A. J. J. MACDONALD, New Bond-street, Colonel in the Army.—M. T. WEST, Meadow-place, Lambeth-road, retired surgeon in the Navy.—P. ADSEAD, Macclesfield, Cheshire, silk dyer.—C. BARKWORTH, Wakefield, tail.—S. FRANEY, Upton, farmer.—J. F. HIGSON and H. A. WEST, Manchester, merchants.—G. KING, Battersea, beer retailer.—W. M. LITTLE, Birmingham, tobaccoist.—J. G. FEATS, Patricroft and Manchester, sewing cotton manufacturer.—E. P. QUADLING, Forest-hill, late secretary of a public company.—F. STEWART, Liverpool, tea merchant.—G. WHEELER, West Cowes, builder.  
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. MORTON, Glasgow, sheriff's officer.—A. NIVEN and J. HYSLOP, Langholm, skinners.—A. BURRELL, Glasgow, and Chancery-lane, London, writer.—M. MURDOCH, Manichine, Ayrshire, grocer.

TUESDAY, JAN. 24.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—T. FREEMAN, Upper Thames-street, coal merchant.—W. ARMSTRONG and S. W. ROWSE, Plymouth, wholesale grocers.  
BANKRUPT.—A. A. ARMSTRONG, Upper Baker-street, dentist.—C. CONEY, Great Cambridge-street, Hackney-road, bootmaker.—W. DURROCH, Southwark, surgical instrument maker.—G. and D. LATIMER, Eastcheap, chemical agents.—C. VEYHL, Fimbo, journeyman cabinet-maker.—E. BIGG, Manchester, East India merchant.—R. CRUTTENDEN, Mayfield, Sussex, farmer.—W. I. JONES, Acton, builder.—N. LESSER, Dudley, boot and shoe manufacturer.—R. SIDNEY, Hastings, lodging-house keeper.  
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. MORRIS, J. YOUNG, and B. J. BLACKHURST, Glasgow, iron and steel manufacturers.—M. STEWART, Glasgow, dyer.

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